

**FBIS****DAILY REPORT****CONTENTS***Latin America*

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ARGENTINA, CHILE SIGN DECLARATION AT VATICAN

## Signing Announced

PY231100 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1047 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Vatican City, 23 Jan (TELAM) -- Argentina and Chile this morning signed a joint Peace and Friendship Declaration. The document marks the beginning of the last stage in negotiating the two countries' border dispute in the southern area. The declaration was signed at 1000 local time (0600 Argentine time) by Foreign Ministers Dante Caputo and Jaime del Valle. The ceremony took place in the Apostolic Palace with Secretary of State Agostino Casaroli participating.

## Text of Declaration

PY231220 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1147 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Rome, 23 Jan (DYN) -- The following is the text of the declaration signed this morning at the Vatican:

"The foreign ministers of the Republic of Argentina and the Republic of Chile, meeting in Vatican City on 23 January 1984, in response to an initiative and to an invitation extended by His Holiness Pope John Paul II, with the objective of endorsing with their presence the solemn occasion of the start of the conclusive stage of the mediation which will result in the drafting of a final treaty that is acceptable to both parties involved which will be the result of his holiness' fruitful [word indistinct] and which will be based on his proposal, in representation of their respective governments, issue the following joint declaration:

"We are convinced that the start of the present stage is the proper time for both parties to take into account the appeal made by His Holiness John Paul II, and to thank him, once again, for his patient and invaluable work to achieve the end of the mediation process in a successful manner.

"We reassert that the papal proposal issued on 12 December 1980 is based on the will to establish an optimum level of bilateral relations between the two countries, and thus to promote peace and to set the actions of Argentina and Chile as an example to be followed by the entire world.

"Persuaded that peace and friendship are a lasting characteristic of the peoples of Argentina and Chile as neighboring, brother countries, and that the consolidation of same, to which the fair and honorable solution of the dispute in the south should contribute, is the basis of a close cooperation between them and also meets their basic interests.

"The two ministers solemnly declare, on behalf of their governments, their decision to preserve and to develop the links of permanent peace and perpetual friendship between their respective countries, always and exclusively by peaceful means.

"Inspired by these intentions, the two governments confirm their firm will to arrive as soon as possible at the solution of the controversy submitted to the mediation of His Holiness John Paul II."

## Chile's Del Valle Comments

PY231350 Paris AFP in Spanish 1328 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Vatican City, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle stated here today that the Beagle Channel mediation could conclude by Easter. After his private audience with the pope, Minister del Valle told the journalists waiting for him in the San Damaso Patio of the Apostolic Palace that Easter would be an appropriate date to conclude the dispute. Moreover, the Chilean foreign minister pointed out that no dates have been set, but it is hoped, as the pope has stated, that the conclusion of the mediation come about as soon as possible. Del Valle repeated to the pope the invitation to visit Chile after the final treaty between the two countries has been signed.

## Argentina's Caputo Makes Speech

PY231755 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1345 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Rome, 23 Jan (NA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo reasserted here today the will of the Argentine Government to achieve a peaceful solution to the border dispute with Chile over the Beagle Channel, and he warned that behind the opposition to a negotiated agreement "lies the ambition for political power, and this is a threat that we must avoid."

Caputo delivered a speech in the presence of Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican secretary of state, and his Chilean colleague, Jaime del Valle, minutes before signing the joint peace and friendship declaration which marks the start of the final stage of the Beagle negotiations.

The Argentine foreign minister began his speech by noting that "it has been said, and with good reason, that it has not been for some 4 centuries that the personality and methods of a pope, as those of Pope John Paul II, have been so vitally important for millions of human beings."

He noted that "the invitation that his holiness extended to our delegations to meet today with the venerable and efficient cardinal secretary of state has motivated the Argentine Government to appoint its foreign minister as head of the Argentine delegation." He added: "Our government could not do otherwise because the reason for our meeting here today has a great historic and political significance."

Caputo said that "after 5 years of work, of studies, and of facing some difficult moments, we have arrived at a conclusive stage: All of us who are meeting here today know the hard path that we had to undertake to arrive at an understanding on every one of the issues that make up the complicated dispute over the southern zone." He added: "But we also know that the statements of good will that were sincerely and repeatedly issued by the two parties were not merely statements but were expressions of sincere hope." Caputo said: "Our presence here today is proof of this and as his holiness has well put it, the time has come to undertake the conclusive stage of work that will lead to a final treaty."

Caputo noted: "We firmly believe in the need for a negotiated solution, despite the sacrifices that it implies, because we believe that it is the most suitable path for solving controversies." He added that "we also believe that, unfortunately, the rejection of a peaceful solution underlies the temptation of political power and this is a threat that must be avoided."

In this regard he noted that "today's world is filled with examples of violence. We want to undertake a common future with a sister nation, a future in which the greatest challenge will be the achievement of the spiritual and socioeconomic development of our societies."

He added: "It must be taken into account that in the decade of the eighties we are witnessing, among other characteristics of the international system, a realignment of international policies at all levels, and this is accompanied by intergration and multinational integration [transnacionalization] activities." Caputo added: "And this is so because the struggle for power and wealth will continue to cause tensions despite efforts to achieve bilateral and subregional agreements among developing countries with or without the participation of international organizations."

Caputo warned: "Faced with this situation, the long-term effects, not only of a war, but of a simple issue of tension between Argentina and Chile will have a great impact on the already limited possibilities that countries still have to confront problems on an individual basis."

He noted: "The great damage that the continuation of a conflict of this nature will have on the Latin American cooperation process at the political, economic, and social levels at a time in which the continent demands an urgent strengthening of ties among nations to confront successfully the great obstacles posed by the present international situation is also obvious."

He added that "it is with this conviction in mind and aware of the significance of the task that we undertake today that I want to express to the distinguished representatives of his holiness and the sister nation of the Republic of Chile that just as he has reiterated several times, interpreting the feeling of the Argentine people, President Raul Alfonsin firmly believes that the achievement of an understanding with the Republic of Chile and the achievement of a peaceful solution of this controversy is the only means that will enable us to build a future of fruitful cooperation that will lead to a real and close integration of our two nations."

Caputo stated: "The Argentine delegation has come here to work with the same conviction and it is prompted by the same objectives. Therefore, because we share the same convictions as the distinguished Chilean delegates, I am convinced that we shall be completely successful in our task."

He also noted that "I want to end by expressing to his excellency, the cardinal secretary of state, the gratitude of the Argentine Government and its people, for the continued efforts he made as the pastor for peace and agreement, and I ask him to mae this gratitude known to his holiness."

#### Caputo Holds Press Conference

PY232315 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2100 GMT 23 Jan 84

[By special NA correspondent]

[Text] Rome, 23 Jan (NA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Donte Caputo today said that Argentina's democratic government has inherited a series of mistakes" concerning the Beagle Channel dispute and that such mistakes "have weaken the Argentine position in the negotiations." During a press conference he hosted this afternoon at the Argentine Embassy to the Vatican, Caputo reiterated that "the two sides will have to make concessions to reach a definitive treaty on the Beagle."

Caputo, who carefully specified that the declaration signed by Argentina and Chile today is neither an agreement nor a treaty, confirmed that the two countries' delegations will begin concrete negotiations on Wednesday. "The declaration," he stressed, "marked the beginning of the conclusive stage of the mediation."

Asked whether Argentina had already ceded the three islands (Picton, Lenox and Nueva), he replied that "all aspects of the conflict are being subjected to negotiation." Thus, he would neither confirm nor deny what he was being asked.

Asked whether the restoration of democracy in Argentina would weaken the Argentine position in the negotiations, Caputo answered that "democracy never weakens a country's stance." "The participation of the people and congress in making government decisions has strengthened our position from the international standpoint," he remarked. "Argentines recovered democracy, and the international community recovered Argentina," he stressed.

Concerning the withdrawal of forces stationed along the Chilean-Argentine border, Caputo added that "the area will be demilitarized as the possibilities of conflict are eliminated."

The Argentine foreign minister categorically stated that "when [words indistinct] of the text of the treaty and when it is approved by congress, an honorable peace will have been achieved with the support of the people."

Asked about some points of disagreement that may have arisen in relation to the text of the declaration signed today -- as was reported by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS -- the minister said that "there was an exchange of opinions" and that "some grammatical changes that did not alter the essentials of the issue were introduced." However, he said that "the signing of the document was never in jeopardy."

For his part, Hugo Gobbi, Foreign Ministry secretary for special affairs, summarized the three major areas involving the issues to be negotiated: navigation along the Tierra del Fuego channels, peaceful methods for solving the problems that may arise in the area, and establishment of sea borders (the most important topic).

Caputo was then asked whether the Malvinas issue and the possibility of Italian mediation would be discussed during the interview that he will hold with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti on Wednesday. Caputo said that the Malvinas issue was not on the agenda and that "Italy's mediation has not been considered."

Concerning the Malvinas issue, Caputo said that it is necessary to resume negotiations, but maintained that the Argentine Government did not agree to a unilateral end to hostilities as a precondition. "Negotiations must be resumed within the United Nations and in keeping with the terms of resolutions 2065 and 37/8," he said.

He did not rule out that he and his Italian counterpart might address the human rights issue and the situation of the Italians who were affected by the excesses committed during the antisubversive war. "That is why the presidential adviser, Jose Malamud, is accompanying me in this trip. He is in charge of that area," he explained.

Caputo categorically denied the alleged presence of Argentine military advisers in Central America, remarking that "the Armed Forces have no personnel in that area. If there are Argentines there, they are mercenaries."

Regarding the Argentine position toward the Nonaligned Movement, Caputo said that "it is not new, although in recent years it has deteriorated because of inconsistencies in policy."

"(?From) a position in which we defended the Western world, we shifted to another one in which we embraced Third World leaders. Joining the Nonaligned Movement must not be a way of covering a position of alignment, but a manner of avoiding the effects of the confrontations between the most powerful," he concluded.

#### Further on Signing

PY240008 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Relay from Rome]

[Excerpt] It can be noticed that fear of terrorism has forced the Vatican to adopt extreme security measures which today even hindered the work of the journalists who tried to cover the signing of the Chilean-Argentine peace declaration. That document was officially signed at a ceremony presided over by the Vatican's second most important man, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli. The text of the declaration was made public by Monsignor Faustino Saenz Munoz:

[Begin Saenz recording] Both ministers, on behalf of their governments, solemnly declare their decision to preserve and to develop invariably peaceful ties and perpetual friendship, thus to solve always and exclusively by peaceful means any differences between their respective countries. Imbued with such purposes, both governments reiterate their firm determination to reach a solution as soon as possible to the conflict which was submitted to the mediation of His Holiness John Paul II.

In Vatican City on 23 January 1984 [end recording]

JUDGE ORDERS ARREST OF GENERAL SUAREZ MASON

PY240252 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1638 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpt] La Plata, 23 Jan (TELAM) -- Federal Judge Hector de la Serna today issued an arrest warrant for former I Corps Commander General Carlos Suarez Mason, retired, in a case opened to investigate the disappearance of Carlos Esteban Alaye in Ensenada in 1977.

This information was released today at noon by a high-placed source from the 1st La Plata Federal Court who asked not to be identified. He noted that an arrest warrant had already been sent to the federal police chief to bring Suarez Mason to this city to appear as a witness. The source added that Judge de la Serna lifted the prohibition issued in connection with this case against Generals Jorge Rafael Videla and Ramon Camps leaving the country, thereby granting a petition submitted by Carlos Sanchez Herrera, the defense attorney for the two generals.

MILITARY INDUSTRIES TO COME UNDER OUTSIDE AUDIT

PY200105 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1210 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (DYN) -- In an article published today by EL CRONISTA COMERCIAL, accountant Raul Tomas, under secretary of production for defense, has disclosed that military enterprises will be subjected to outside audit by the General Trusteeship of Public Enterprises (SCEP). Tomas, who will soon be appointed head of the Military Industries, also anticipated that the requirement that military personnel head enterprises in the defense area was revoked, and that, from now on, the appointment of officials will depend upon their capabilities.

Tomas said that the transfer of the military enterprises to the Defense Ministry's jurisdiction is related to the concept of the role of civil administration in state activities, "even in those activities which were under the jurisdiction of the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces," in order to ensure civilian control over these types of activities.

Tomas noted that, for all practical purposes, the military enterprises "will be audited by an outside organization, in this case, SCEP." "In other words, from now on, all enterprises or corporations, however they are incorporated, even an autonomous agency as is the case of the Military Industries, will be subjected to an outside audit, beyond the scope of the Defense Ministry," Tomas added.

Tomas also announced that in coming years the participation of the Military Industries in areas such as steelmaking and petrochemicals will depend on the programs put together by the respective sectors, "programs which will be drafted with the participation of all the interested state and private sectors." Tomas suggested that the subsidy granted by the state to private projects in basic sectors be reviewed.

MILITARY MANEUVERS TO STRESS 'TEAMWORK DOCTRINE'

PY232100 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] (NA) -- The Defense Ministry plans to hold major joint-forces training manoeuvres before the end of this year aimed at implementing a teamwork doctrine within the Armed Forces, a high-ranking defence source said, adding that the manoeuvres might take place in the south.

The source said priority is being given to the work of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, and the heads of the Army, Navy and Air Force have been asked to send their best officers to work on joint programmes. The source also stressed the need to fight for "the unity of the Armed Forces," which was seriously deteriorated during the Malvinas war.

Regarding cuts in military spending, the source said the extent of such rationalization will depend on the outcome of diplomatic negotiations regarding the Beagle and Malvinas territorial disputes. Military specialists have pointed out in this respect that favourable variations in "hypothetical conflicts" might provide for greater cuts in military spending than a reduction in the number of draftees.

The Defense Ministry is not in a position to modify existing plans for the purchase of war materiel, the source said, pointing out that it might be costlier to rescind some contracts than to fulfill them.

#### EDITORIAL EXAMINES MILITARY'S CURRENT CONCERNS

PY201534 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Jan 84 p 1, 8

[J. Iglesias Rouco Editorial: "Polemics"]

[Excerpts] Let us note:

1. The statements made by General Aguado Benitez, which motivated a reprimand from the government and a directive prohibiting the military from making political statements (this prohibition was in existence before the incident), are the direct result, according to military circles, of the extraordinary concern with which the military garrisons have been following during the past few days the campaign of accusations and the disinterments related to the "dirty war," and especially the support that is being given to this campaign by the state-controlled media. From what we know, quite a few officers in all military garrisons have made known to their superiors, their displeasure over this matter, which, in their opinion, responds to the intention of the "leftist" sectors of the government or the UCR [Radical Civic Union] to "destroy" the Armed Forces. All the corps commanders have presumably informed the Army Staff of the "spiritual deterioration" of the officer corps and General Arguindegui presumably informed Mr Borras [defense minister] about the matter before the president held his press conference. The president's words on the need for "reconciliation" have presumably toned down the agitation of the military, although not the military's alarm about the alleged actions of the left. The iron-handed control that Arguindegui exercises over the Army presumably prevented the "reaction" some days ago of other generals and the forced silence of the higher commanders has presumably caused a worsening of the tension of the officer corps.

The declarations made by Aguado Benitez, who is perhaps the general who has Arguindegui's greatest trust -- this is the reason that he was appointed head of the V Corps, a corps which Arguindegui and Borras hope to make the most important of the Army -- allegedly was aimed at infusing the officer corps with greater trust in their superiors in this situation of suspicion and commotion. As a result of Aguado Benitez' remarks, some members of the government reportedly advised Alfonsin and Borras to replace the general, but the president and the minister reportedly refused to even consider that possibility, a judgment also shared by Arguindegui. Military circles and leaders of some political parties said last Friday that the alleged "leftist" campaign is "provocative" in nature. They added that this is aimed at encouraging enough agitation in the garrisons to force Arguindegui to leave, because he is a general whom the "leftists" reportedly want replaced because of the obedience and support he commands within the Army.

According to these military and political circles, one of the instigators of the alleged campaign within the government presumably is Mr Storani, who reportedly made the following comment: "We won when we denounced the military-union pact. Therefore we must now put an end forever to the influence of the unions and the Armed Forces."

2. The same sources criticized the government for appointing -- they said inspired by the "left" -- a high official in the SIDE [Secretariat for State Intelligence] who they claim received psychiatric treatment in a clinic for several months, although the basis of this accusation is not known. They added that the government pays no attention to reports from intelligence organizations. They pointed out, however, that although the "contribution" of these intelligence organizations has increased now, compared to December, their daily contribution is "superficial" because many files have reportedly disappeared, among other things.

8. The Communist Party and several leftist organizations are reportedly preparing a "popular" demonstration, seeking to get a "deeper" investigation of the "dirty war." The forthcoming arrests of Videla, Agosti, Camps, and others, and the "political trial" of Martinez de Hoz would be the starting point of a new escalation by these groups in the field of human rights for political gains. The escalation would also go against military institutions because these groups believe that the Alfonsin government did fare very well from the episode regarding the remarks made by Aguado Benitez last Friday. According to the opposition, this campaign is allegedly supported by people who are friends of the Communist Party and the USSR and who are close to the government (including a member of the Argentine-Soviet Chamber), people who reportedly are even influential in the appointment of some officials. The Social Democrats within the Alfonsin Government are reportedly also making their moves (Recently a suggestion was reportedly made to offer a position to an Argentine scientist in NASA who was recommended by Professor Sadosky but the name of this scientist was reportedly "vetoed" by one of Sadosky's aides).

#### SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON INCREASE IN BILATERAL TRADE

PY212336 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1637 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Rosario, 21 Jan (DYN) -- Oleg Kvasov, the Soviet ambassador to Argentina, today said that the Soviet Union may increase its trade in the medical and industrial sector with the new constitutional government. After meeting with the Santa Fe provincial bank board, the Soviet diplomat noted that the middle Parana issue was not discussed with bank authorities or with the Santa Fe governor, because this "is not an undertaking that is directly handled by provincial authorities."

Kvasov said that there is a good possibility that the Soviet Union will increase its exports of industrial equipment, transformers, dredging machines, and river transportation equipment.

#### INTERIOR MINISTER MEETS PARAGUAYAN EXILE LEADERS

PY181344 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] The following report comes from Government House.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] A delegation of Paraguayans living here in exile, including Domingo Laino, has met with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli in Government House.

We are going to talk with Domingo Laino, vice president of Authentic Radical Liberal Party in exile, so he can tell us about the important points of his meeting with the interior minister.

[Laino] One of the important points we discussed was the Yacyreta Dam project. Yacyreta is a large hydroelectric project currently under construction by Argentina and Paraguay on the Parana River. This project represents an investment of \$10 billion, and 10 percent of this amount, \$1 billion, has already been spent by the Paraguayan and Argentine military regimes. The true representatives of the Paraguayan opposition have learned that there have been many irregularities in the appropriation of funds -- that is, salaries have been inflated by thousands of dollars -- and there have been other administrative irregularities such as malfeasance of funds. The true Paraguayan opposition is concerned about this situation.

We discussed this issue with Minister Troccoli, who also expressed concern over the matter. Troccoli pointed out that an individual from Corrientes is currently the head of Yacyreta and he believes that this individual will investigate the decisions made by the irregular governments.

We also discussed the creation of a forum of democratic parties of the Americas. In this regard, I have received many suggestions from European international democratic organizations for implementing Alfonsín's idea to create this forum so that all countries with democratic parties can unite their forces to cooperate among themselves so that democracy can take root in this continent. In this regard, Minister Troccoli agreed with us, recalling that Alfonsín spoke of this idea during the electoral campaign.

We told the minister that we would like to start implementing this idea with the countries of the Plate River Basin -- Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and in addition Chile, which can be the sixth country. They can start to create this forum so that we can hold a congress about next July with the most representative democratic parties of each country. These parties would include the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, the Paraguayan Authentic Radical Liberal Party, the Argentine Radical Civic Union, the Chilean Radical Party and the progressive sector of the Christian Democratic Party, and the Bolivian Movement of the Revolutionary Left. In this regard, Minister Troccoli expressed a great deal of interest in the creation of this forum.

[Reporter] Laino, what possibilities do the Paraguayans living here, particularly those in Posadas, Misiones Province, have for returning to their homeland as promised by General Stroessner.

[Laino] Well, General Stroessner has promised that any Paraguayan could return to his homeland except for myself, Luis Alfonso Resk, and other Paraguayans who due to their political activity have pending proceedings in Paraguayan courts. We believe that Stroessner is making this promise for the first time in 30 years. As you know, Paraguay has the longest-held -- 21 years -- political prisoner on the continent, Sergeant Escolastico Ovando. Paraguay also has people living in exile for the longest time, from 25 to 30 years. These are Paraguayans who cannot return. But Stroessner has put conditions on returns. He wants people returning from exile to enter Paraguay one by one, to register their home address, to explain what they are going to do, how many people are in the family, and so on.

Obviously this political opening is not democratic. Stroessner is probably feeling trapped in the new winds blowing from the Southern Cone, democratic winds which are currently blowing stronger in Argentina than in any other country of the Southern Cone. Despite this situation, we are willing to return, but not by relinquishing our rights as citizens. At this time we want a true democratic process and not a false one, which Stroessner has been practicing for the last 30 years.

[Reporter] Laino, thank you for the interview and we wish you success in the return of so many Paraguayans living in exile in Argentina. How many Paraguayans are living in exile here?

[Laino] Well, a census was conducted in 1977. This census, made by Catholic organizations of the Southern Cone, reported that there are 1.6 million Paraguayans living in Argentina. In reality the most dramatic immigration problem in the world is the immigration of Paraguayans. For every four Paraguayans, one lives abroad. [end recording]

#### LABOR MINISTER PLANS TO REPLACE UNION LEADERS

PY201149 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Jan 84 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Labour Minister Antonio Mucci ordered the replacement of all Construction Workers' Union (UOCRA) officials appointed by the military government, former UOCRA Secretary-General and current Deputy Rogelio Papagno said yesterday after meeting with the minister.

Papagno reported Mucci as saying the officials "won't stay an extra minute," and added that 41 of the 64 UOCRA locals, including the federal capital branch, are manned by military-appointed administrators. The current secretary-general of the capital branch, Juan Farias, is Papagno's chief internal UOCRA rival. At least two other secretaries-general backing Farias will also be affected by the move. Finally, a new union grouping, the Argentine Union Assembly (AGA), representing "Radicals, formed on Tuesday. Several AGA members met yesterday with President Raul Alfonsin and offered support for the government's union reorganization bill. The AGA said it is seeking an alliance with another new grouping, the National Workers' Gathering (ENT), led by Julio Guillan and Alberto Piccinini.

#### MONTONERO LEADER ARRESTED AT EZEIZA AIRPORT

PY231345 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2128 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (DYN) -- Reliable sources today reported that a Montonero leader who had been residing in Italy and who had entered the country illegally a few weeks ago has been arrested by the Ezeiza International Airport Air Force Police as he was trying to leave the country. The person arrested was identified as Juan Jose Baravalla, 31 years old, who is charged by the Rosario 6th Federal District Court with possession of arms and explosives in a 1977 case.

It was learned that Baravalla was arrested by the members of Ezeiza Airport's Air Force Police squadron and was later handed over to the Federal Police who ordered his transfer to Rosario. Baravalla was arrested as he was preparing to board Alitalia flight No 577. The same sources noted that according to intelligence reports, Baravalla performed an important duty within the Montoneros terrorist group in the Rosario and Santa Fe areas.

'AUGUST 22' BRIGADE CLAIMS CREDIT FOR KILLING

PY221950 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jan 84 p 13

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- The murder of Jorge Repossi, head of the Turf Professionals Association, in Olivos on Friday morning has set a poser for the local police who are still endeavouring to trace the culprits and find the real motive for the killing.

Late last night an anonymous telephone caller rang DIARIOS Y NOTICIAS news agency to claim that the killing had been an "execution of a union bureaucrat" carried out by the "Ana Maria Martinez August 22 Brigade." Miss Martinez was an activist of the Trotskyite Socialist Workers' Party (PST) who was abducted and killed in 1980 while August 22 is the date of the 1972 Trelew shooting of 13 imprisoned terrorists who had escaped from Rawson Prison.

ISRAELI SEEKS PROBE FOR MISSING DAUGHTER

PY172323 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Luis Jaimovich, father of a missing Jewish girl who disappeared in Cordoba in 1976, charged yesterday that his daughter was held at a detention centre La Perla situated some 20 kilometres from Buenos Aires, that former 3rd Army Corps Commander General Luciano Benjamin Menendez visited the centre, and that he knew there were torturing facilities installed.

Jaimovich, an Argentine residing in Israel and a member of the Israeli human rights commission who spoke from Israel to the programme "Mundo Nuevo" broadcast on Radio El Mundo, said that his 17-year-old daughter Alejandra and another minor were detained by the police on June 1, 1976 and that he knew nothing of her whereabouts until 1981 when a woman called Graciela Jeuna testifying before the human rights commission in Geneva said she had been detained and slept alongside a minor called Alejandra Jaimovich.

He added that he filed several writs of habeas corpus but never received a reply, while the other minor was released.

Jaimovich, who is expected to arrive in Argentina soon, said that the authorities at the Interior Ministry "made fun" of him when he made inquiries about his daughter.

TORRENTIAL RAINS CAUSE FLOODING IN SOME AREAS

## Localities Isolated

PY161709 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] Catamarca (NA) -- The situation in this province is now reported as being dramatic, due to the torrential downpours. Some localities have virtually been covered in mud while Andalgalá, an important town of 15,000 inhabitants, also remains isolated, due to the disruption of communications.

The fate of the inhabitants remains uncertain as planes are unable to aid the affected areas because of unceasing rains. However, both Catamarca Governor Ramon Saadi and La Rioja Governor Carlos Menem flew over stricken areas of their provinces yesterday.

Drinking water supplies are reported badly affected. Authorities are putting up special school dining-rooms for evacuees and report that the province's economic situation is very bad.

#### Losses Reported

PY211025 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] (DYN) -- Excessive rains and floods in several provinces have caused tremendous damage in farmlands and vineyards, according to statements made by an agriculture and livestock secretariat spokesman. The Farming Emergency Commission has declared large areas of Catamarca, Corrientes, Entre Rios, La Pampa, La Rioja, Rio Negro and San Luis to be emergency and disaster areas. The situation is reported to be very critical in Catamarca, where hundreds of people have had to abandon their homes and the entire grape crop was lost.

Catamarca Welfare Minister Herminio Herrera said at a press conference that the housing secretariat would provide 210 pre-fabricated houses for the homeless, who have already been promised free land. Herrera, who estimated flood damage in the province at 300 million dollars, thanked the national and provincial authorities for their help and denied reports that the distribution of food, clothes, and other commodities was in the hands of Peronist-run organizations.

#### BRIEFS

SOVIET HYDROELECTRIC COOPERATION -- Soviet Ambassador Oleg Kvasov has stated in Santa Fe that Soviet-Argentine relations are very good, adding that Soviet specialists will arrive in the city of Santa Fe in 2 weeks to continue cooperation in the study of the Parana Medio hydroelectric project. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84 PY]

CASTRO MADERO CNEA ADVISER -- Former CNEA [National Commission for Atomic Energy] director, Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, will again join this agency. Castro Madero voiced his decision to the journalists that gathered for the installation of the newly appointed president of the CNEA, Alberto Rafael Constantini. Castro Madero will act as an ad honorem adviser. [Summary] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 19 Jan 84 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTRY DENIES ARCE GOMEZ IN COUNTRY

PY212118 Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The Bolivian Interior Ministry today stated that it has reports on the activities of former Colonel Luis Arce Gomez in Argentina, and it denied that the former interior minister in the Luis Garcia Meza regime (1980-1981) had illegally entered the country.

Rumors of Arce Gomez' presence in a Chuquisaca Department town, located in the south of the country, were described as mere press speculations.

Quoting reports from the Bolivian Embassy in Argentina, the Interior Ministry stated that Arce Gomez has not left Argentina since he entered that country seeking asylum.

U.S. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PCB QUESTIONED

PY161516 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 9 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Bolivian Communist Party"]

[Text] The Bolivian ambassador to Washington recently stated that the U.S. Government does not object to the Bolivian Communist Party's [PCB] participation in the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] government because it considers that, like other parties, it obtained the power it possesses democratically.

Although the naivete of the colossus of the north is so great that 25 years ago, for example, it sponsored Fidel Castro's bid for the government of Cuba, we understand that the State Department, whose influence is sometimes a determining factor in our country, should be well informed about what is happening here. But this is not why we want to refresh the memories of Bolivians about the PCB and its significance in our politics; we want to do so because of our current political crisis. We will now point out some of our recent historical background.

The PCB has never had truly popular representation. It has never taken the risk of participating alone in any election, but has always been able to get itself included in some political front such as the UDP, which has always wanted to amply cover the political spectrum; therefore, they accept the PCB as a member. Otherwise, and we can be quite sure about this, it would never be represented in Congress.

According to a charge made by one of its members in a local magazine, it is well known that the PCB has always adapted to circumstances in such a way -- and this is just citing one recent case -- that it tried to accommodate itself with the short-lived government of General Alberto Natusch Busch.

Moreover, when Ernesto Che Guevara invaded Bolivia and started a guerrilla campaign that was supported economically from that Caribbean island, the PCB at the beginning adopted a wait-and-see position and finally placed itself in a timid and obscure situation, to such an extent that the famous Argentine guerrilla spat a series of offensive phrases against its members.

It must be made clear that the Bolivian Communists did not act in this way in order to defend a fatherland that had been offended by the violation of its territory by foreign individuals, but simply because they could never quite give up their bourgeois origin, despite the fact that they belong to an international group that has always promoted violence. Thus, maybe this is where we can find the reason why they are acceptable to the U.S. Government, which, knowing their weaknesses, believes that they can be used at any time.

This is the PCB reality; there is no other. Therefore, the "quota" of power that President Siles has given it is surprising and, of course, it is not in accordance with its true importance. Its influence over the current government is even more surprising, because its members, at all levels, have acquired an importance that should be considered as an offense by the other UDP members.

And to conclude: We ask ourselves whether the Bolivian ambassador to the United States has no knowledge of the background data we have just outlined.

#### EDITORIAL CRITICIZES ANTI-U.S. SENTIMENTS

PY180050 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Irrelevant Sectarianism"]

[Text] A few weeks ago the president made a statement to the Caracas press voicing his disapproval of the OAS, which includes the United States among its members. This was Siles' personal opinion, a biased and rash one coming as it did from a chief of state. This opinion is similar to one once voiced by Siles in which he said that if he were not president, he would join the Sandinist forces to fight off foreign (U.S.) intervention in Nicaragua. This is a strange anti-Yankee utterance, to say the least, coming from the president of a country that is receiving significant political and economic assistance from the United States. This assistance is not new; its first stage dates back to 1952-1964. It was then resumed at a later date, when the White House and EEC countries used all their weight to institute democracy in Bolivia, to the benefit incidentally of the UDP [Popular and Democratic Unity]. Therefore, there is an obvious lack of logic and consistency, which could be blamed on a trite individual liking for the Third World were it not for the repeated government statements through its diplomatic representatives abroad, in instances such as the casting of votes in Geneva and Washington, and especially that in which the Bolivian ambassador made a speech to the OAS on 3 January.

Although the ambassador to the OAS is characterized by his not-too-diplomatic and preposterous remarks, and so nothing that he says comes as a surprise, a local newspaper now reports that he has just made another absurd remark criticizing the United States and the Caribbean countries for their joint undertaking against Grenada at the request of the seven member countries of the Caribbean Subregional System. As is well known, this action saved Grenada from falling into the hands of a pro-Castro group which had seized power by force and assassinated Prime Minister Bishop.

According to this report, the Bolivian ambassador accused "the United States and other Caribbean island states of 'violating' the OAS Charter by using force, instead of resorting to negotiations and the laws in the Grenadian case."

Although it is quite true that the Bolivian representative to the OAS has always shown a noticeably pro-Castro sentiment, it is hard to believe that he has not yet become mature enough to realize that international politics is balancing realities against interests, and that assailing a friend who is assisting us to alleviate our poverty is not only bad manners but irrational. As for his pro-Castro sentiments, it can be recalled that back in 1970 he had to be drastically silenced because of his uncalled for statements in support of ultraleftist motions.

Of course, we do not approve of a foreign power invading another state, but the action taken by the Caribbean allies cannot be judged as an isolated fact. It must be borne in mind that another invasion had taken place before, intended not as a temporary one, as the U.S. intervention, but as a definitive occupation such as those of Afghanistan and other countries which have fallen prey to the Communist bear.

We know that the abstention vote cast by a Latin American country during the UN balloting on the Grenadian issue forced the departure of a foreign minister who had instructed his representative to abstain. This happened at a time when the balance of interests advised, against the instinct of a majority and for the protection of an interdependent and permanent relationship, that the vote be cast against the UN resolution condemning the United States, as is commonplace whenever UN resolutions refer to the United States.

At times, not only principles but political will and political considerations are at stake, times when it is wiser to adopt less sectarian and more prudent postures.

#### COB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DEMANDS MINIMUM SALARY

PY202141 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The Executive Committee of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] will go on a hunger strike next week to pressure the government into implementing the minimum salary with an adjustable scale. The COB made this decision during a special national meeting that ended at noon today. The hunger strike will be carried out by members of the Executive Committee with the exception of Juan Lechin Oquendo, who will head a negotiating commission to try to find a solution to the COB demands before the hunger strike starts.

#### Stages Hunger Strike

PY232114 Paris AFP in Spanish 1516 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 23 Jan (AFP) -- The leaders of the COB (Bolivian Labor Federation) and of the CGTFB (General Confederation of Bolivian Factory Workers) today began fasting as a prelude to this week's indefinite general strike. Workers will demand the enactment of a minimum salary of approximately \$300 with an adjustable scale.

COB leader Juan Lechin Oquendo confirmed to AFP the labor leaders' decision to go on a hunger strike and announced that other union leaders will join the strike tomorrow. Last night, in a great effort to avoid a confrontation with the powerful labor movement, the government approved the implementation of an adjustable scale. Under the scale, salaries will be periodically readjusted in keeping with consumer price index variations. The COB has rejected this scale. Lechin Oquendo is conducting the strike and also the negotiations with the government over the workers' demands.

PARAGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT 27 JAN

PY232246 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar will visit Brazil next Friday. According to Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas, Saldivar will discuss some bilateral issues, including the Itaipu hydroelectric project, and will return to Asuncion on the same day.

PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR EAST EUROPEAN TRADE CHANGED

PY101700 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Jan 84 p 5

[Text] Brasilia -- Tarcisio Mariano da Rocha, chief of the International Advisory Department of the Finance Ministry, yesterday reported that upon IMF demands the clearing facilities existing under agreements with Hungary and Romania are being changed, and that an identical change had already been implemented with Poland in November. In addition to reporting on the change in the terms of the clearing agreement with Poland, a change that had remained undisclosed, Rocha also corrected a report released the day before yesterday by Itamaraty that the clearing agreements signed with Eastern Europe were to be terminated. Rocha explained that clearing agreements will be continued with Hungary, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, and the GDR. He added: "Brazil is changing the system of clearing facilities with Romania and Hungary to comply with a condition imposed by the IMF to conform to GATT regulations." The accounts of commercial transactions with those two countries will be balanced every 3 months. This is the system that was adopted with Poland in November.

"For a long time now, we have wanted to adjust trade conditions with Hungary and Romania to the current economic circumstances. The clearing system adopted with those two countries was designed many years ago. Since that time, IMF, GATT, and UNCTAD regulations have changed," he added.

According to the finance minister's assistant, the principle change is to shorten the clearing period from 1 year to 3 months, that is, the periodic balancing of accounts has been reduced to 90 days. Whoever then has a debit balance will have to pay the difference in dollars. Brazil has a similar agreement, known as Reciprocal Credit Agreement (CCR), with Latin American countries.

Brazil has in recent years sold more to East European countries than it has purchased, thus accumulating credit balances which were not being collected. So CACEX [Bank of Brazil Foreign Trade Department] director Carlos Viacava ruled that Brazilian importers could buy from the East European countries twice the amount set as the limit for normal imports from other countries. CACEX would facilitate these import operations.

The chief of the International Advisory Department of the Finance Ministry also explained that the IMF also considered the clearing facilities existing with Hungary and Romania contrary to free trade solely because they were granted for one year's time. He noted, however, that this has nothing to do with the internationally nonnegotiable commercial paper known as "polonetas" with which Poland has paid for Brazilian imports.

Last November, Brazil and Poland revised the clearing facilities under the bilateral agreement, and determined that accounts between the two countries would have to be balanced every 90 days and no debit balance could be higher than \$4 million.

A source from Brasilia's financial district explained that the main objective in changing the clearing agreements is to prevent episodes similar to those with the "polonetas." The new agreement with clearing facilities modified from 1 year to 90 days was signed on 11 November 1983 in Brasilia by Finance Ministry Secretary General Mailson da Nobrega and by Polish Foreign Trade Deputy Minister Andrzej Torosz. At that time the two countries committed themselves to permanently maintaining an even bilateral balance of trade. The Polish expressed interest in purchasing iron ore, soybeans, coffee, and textiles, and the Brazilians in obtaining sulphur and coal.

The same source explained that "if Brazil does not purchase those products from Poland under the clearing agreement, it will need to spend dollars, which it does not have, to buy them from the United States. Under the clearing agreement revised in November 1982, the two countries do not use foreign exchange, and accounts are to be balanced every 3 months. At the end of each period, either country can accumulate a debit balance of up to \$4 million without having to make payments in convertible currencies. Past this limit, the country with a credit balance can demand payment in convertible currencies.

The Brazilian Government is trying to keep Poland from accumulating either deficits or surpluses in the bilateral trade balance because of the risks. Last year the Polish tried to buy too much, and the government had to step in to stop purchases other than those of iron ore which had already been contracted. The source said: "The Brazilian Government has learned its lesson from the Polish, and it does not want to take more chances with that country."

#### ENERGY MINISTER ON NUCLEAR BUDGET, POWER PLANT

PY232011 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jan 84 p 18

[Text] Mining and Energy Minister Cesar Cals said yesterday that the Brazilian nuclear program will have an annual budget of \$850 million as of 1984, a budget which will guarantee that Nuclebras activities under the accord signed with the FRG will be kept in full swing. During an interview granted yesterday at Nuclebras headquarters, Cals reported that this means that Nuclebras' budget, which had previously been fixed at 1.07 trillion cruzeiros, will now have to be raised to 1.2 trillion cruzeiros. Cals revealed that Planning Minister Delfim Neto has approved in principle the new budget, and that only the sources for the funds have to be determined. This way, Nuclebras will be in a position to start the construction of the Angra-II nuclear power plant in December. It will also be able to start the construction of Iguape-I in 1986 and Iguape-II in 1987.

Talking about the importation of 1 million metric tons of Colombian coal, Cals stated that the Colombian coal, which has barely 4 percent ash content, will be mixed with Brazilian coal, which has 50 percent ash content, to be used by the aluminum industry in Carajas.

The Angra-I nuclear power plant was halted a week ago due to problems in the axle linking the two cooling turbines in the so-called "non-nuclear" section. According to Mining and Energy Minister Cesar Cals, the component had corroded, affecting the operation of a bearing [mancal de escora]. The repair work is being carried out by Westinghouse and Furnas [Electrobras subsidiary] technicians with the cooperation of Light, a company which has a technical office. Nuclebras President Dario Gomes has reported that the repair work will be completed in 10 or 15 days and that there is a chance that Nuclep [Nuclebras Nuclear Plant Construction, Inc] may make the replacement parts. Cesar Cals said that these frequent breakdowns will not endanger the plant's operation in the future. Angra-I has already reached 70 percent of its installed capacity, and Cals expects that the 100-percent figure will be reached in 1984.

FOREIGN MINISTER, POPE DISCUSS ASYLUM CASE

PY240021 Paris AFP in Spanish 1358 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Vatican City, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle today reported that he and Pope John Paul II discussed the details of the situation of the four persons who have sought political asylum in the nunciature in Santiago. After a private meeting with the pontiff today, Del Valle said that the pope wanted to know about the situation of the four persons and that the pontiff was satisfied with the opinion of the Chilean Government on the issue. He said that "the matter involves a diplomatic issue of a confidential nature," and gave no further details. However, he admitted that the nunciature in Santiago has received proposals from some countries that have offered to give asylum to those persons.

Asked about the other international problems that Chile will have to solve once the Beagle dispute is settled, Del Valle answered that the main task will be to inform the world of the truth about Chile. The truth about Chile must be known, because what newspapers say is not always the truth, he remarked. He also denied that Chile cooperated with the British against Argentina, as some press reports have suggested.

DINACOS DIRECTOR CALLS FOR NEW SPIRIT IN COUNTRY

PY211419 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The director of DINACOS [National Social Communications Agency] has said that there will be no return to the politicization and demagoguery that prevailed in the past. Osvaldo Rivera said this to the residents' committee of La Cisterna District. He added that today Chile needs a big national impetus to enable the country to start a new phase of development. But this requires from all of us a constructive spirit of effectiveness in our daily tasks and avoidance of malicious criticism, rumormongering, and pessimism which only harm our conscience, Rivera stressed.

On the other hand, Rivera reasserted that Marxism is freedom's worst foe. Rivera emphasized that Marxism, which took power in 1970, was the most serious threat to our republican and independent life. Rivera went on to say that the Constitution provides all the mechanisms necessary for the functioning of a fully democratic political system.

REPORTAGE ON TERRORIST ATTACKS, COMMENTARY

## Power Outage in Santiago

PY210245 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Subversives have caused a power outage in south Santiago. Chilectra's [Chilean Electric Company, Ltd] metropolitan office has reported that the failure was due to objects thrown at the high-tension powerlines at the intersection of Carmen and Zañon de la Aguada Streets. A similar power failure also occurred at the 110,000-volt Ochagadia-La Florida powerline. Because of this power failure the Club Hipico, San Joaquín, Santa Elena, and Macul substations were down. Later, the electric service gradually returned to normal in south Santiago.

### Bomb Planted in Santiago Metro

PY231759 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The metro service has issued a communique reporting that subversives exploded two powerful bombs in a metro car. It adds that the bombs exploded at 0824 at the intersection of Neptuno and San Pablo metro stations. It states that metro train No 101 was heading for San Pablo station and that while it was in the intersection of the Neptuno-San Pablo stations two bombs exploded in the last car. The communique adds that the explosion caused serious damage to the car but that because no passengers were in the car no one was hurt.

### Zaldivar Warns About Violence

PY240207 Paris AFP in Spanish 1651 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Andres Zaldivar, leader of the World Union of Christian Democrats, today charged the military government of Chilean President Augusto Pinochet with opposing any type of political opening and, consequently, with promoting an outburst of social violence.

Zaldivar, a 48-year-old attorney who has led the Christian Democrats since 1983, said that Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has lost the Chilean people's confidence as the director of the government's alleged opening toward the opposition and has now run out of time.

Zaldivar said: The government does not want to make any political concession before 1989 (date set for the presidential election by the Chilean Constitution). This is madness.

### NATIONAL UNION MOVEMENT RULES OUT REORGANIZATION

PY211425 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The National Union Movement [Movimiento de Union Nacional] appreciates Francisco Bulnes' mediation among the former members of the National Party. In a public statement, the National Union Movement has ruled out a reorganization within the National Party. Under the circumstances the country is currently experiencing, we believe that Chile needs a different political force, with a broader base and a fresh approach, a force capable of turning itself into a viable political alternative for former National Party faithfuls, independents, and youth, the National Party's Executive Board has stated. The statement also says that the National Party's reorganization committee has scuttled the single ticket that was proposed by the mediatory commission. The National Union Movement concludes by saying that it appreciates the efforts made by the mediation commission led by Francisco Bulnes.

### MILLAS STATEMENT ON CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE

For reportage on a statement broadcast from Moscow by Orlando Millas, leader of the Chilean Communist Party, on the call for a general strike in March, see the Latin America and Caribbean section of the 23 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

MINISTER ON NICARAGUAN TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

PA232031 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] AFP today sent the following report to its consumers throughout the world: Former Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds today described the claim over the Caribbean islands of San Andres and Providencia as an unfriendly and surprising action on the part of Nicaragua. According to Lemos Simmonds, the note that the Colombian Government yesterday sent to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry was both timely and suitable. In the note the Colombian Government made a very strong protest to the Sandinist regime over its border claims, which include those Colombian islands.

This morning Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo attended a meeting at Narino House, where he discussed this issue with journalists. The minister asserted that Colombia's stand has always been clear and remains unmodifiable with regard to fully implementing the international legal instruments that establish our sovereignty over San Andres and Providencia and over the keys that comprise the archipelago. The foreign minister added: We have clearly and emphatically reiterated that the Esguerra-Barcena Treaty remains in effect. This treaty defined the territorial limits between Colombia and Nicaragua in 1928. Lloreda Caicedo who, as reported before, talked to the journalists outside Narino House, where he attended a meeting of the committee in charge of coordinating a plan for the international promotion of our country, commented on the media's publication of a Nicaraguan map in which part of our territory is presented as Nicaraguan, recalling that on the basis of the information provided by the Colombian Embassy in Nicaragua, he addressed a protest note to the Nicaraguan Government on 16 December 1983. Lloreda Caicedo later said that international treaties cannot be unilaterally repudiated, because if each country were to take the initiative to repudiate what it had signed, the entire structure on which international law is based would collapse throughout the world.

He added that from both a legal and a historical standpoint, Colombia has reason on its side and that it will assert this reason, reiterating it whenever necessary. The foreign minister also acknowledged that in the last few months the Nicaraguan Government has handled this issue very prudently. However, he added, it is also true that every time these episodes occur, Colombia has the obligation to assert its rights.

EDITORIAL VIEWS POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH CUBA

PA230226 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jan 84 p 4-A

[Editorial: "Relations with Cuba?"]

[Text] For the third time since the beginning of the Castro era, the possibility of Colombia and Cuba resuming diplomatic relations has surfaced. To speak about this topic, it is necessary that we recognize and respect the constitutional powers of the president to manage, without any limitations or restrictions, the nation's foreign policy. This must be made very clear in order to broach the topic with an open mind. As EL TIEMPO columnist noted last Sunday, the ties, not between Colombia and Cuba but between Commander Castro and President Betancur, have never been more cordial.

The telephone often serves government representatives better than indirect lines of communications and, apparently in this case, it functions with surprising regularity. We are not mistaken in believing that the Cuban dictator feels closer to our government than ever before.

To maintain a consistent behavior, we must insist on the need for diplomatic relations, despite ideological or political differences, between the nations of the world. We will not rid ourselves of Castro's influence just by not having a Cuban ambassador in Bogota. The problem is much more complex. Therefore, if we were asked about the resumption of Cuban-Colombian relations, we would be in favor. However, we must not forget a statement by Commander Fidel Castro which inexplicably went unnoticed. Had it been made by any other Latin American dictator, the scandal would have been greater. A few months ago Castro publicly declared that in reprisal for "Colombia's presenting its candidacy against Cuba for a post at the United Nations, he had trained a group of guerrillas" who participated in the thwarted invasion through the southern part of the country. With that statement, Castro established some bases for international policy so much like blackmail that it might be worthwhile to get an explanation from the two foreign ministries before resuming diplomatic relations.

Perhaps unintentionally, Castro established a dangerous and barefaced approach to international policy: to train guerrillas to take revenge against those nations that do not march in defense of or in solidarity with his views. Resuming relations with Cuba poses another difficult problem for President Betancur. One problem is the position maintained by Dona Berta [presumably Conservative Party leader Berta Hernandez de Ospina], whom we all know to be a dangerous foe. In her latest statement to the press she rent her garments faced with this possibility. As in soap operas, the question is: What is going to happen? Will President Betancur dare incur the wrath of Dona Berta? Will he seek an intermediate solution? Wait for the next chapter, which will undoubtedly dispel the doubts that fill the public's minds today.

#### FARC REBELS ATTACK MILITARY POST, KILL 7

PA232304 Paris AFP in Spanish 2221 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Unofficial circles and press reports today indicated that a guerrilla attack on a military post in the mid-northern part of Colombia left 11 dead, including 7 soldiers.

In the absence of an official communique, the reports noted that some 120 members of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (pro-Soviet FARC), attacked the military communications center at Cerro Grande, between Remedios and Puerto Berrio in Antioquia Province, 500 km from Bogota, with automatic weapons and grenades. Of the 19 soldiers based there, 7 were killed and 4 wounded in the fighting, according to the sources, who added that the rebels sustained 5 dead. It was reported that an Army helicopter sent to the region on an observation mission was repelled by the rebels' intense fire. Although the attack occurred on Sunday afternoon, initial reports were not received until today when many peasants who had been evicted from their lands by the 14th Brigade, under the command of General Faruk Yanine Diaz, to facilitate troop activity, arrived in Remedios. This is the second guerrilla attack in Antioquia this year. The first occurred when the People's Liberation Army (Maoist EPL) raided Sabanalarga on 6 January and killed five policemen.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES DISCUSS PLATFORMS

PA231631 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The top two Presidential candidates in the polls, Leon Febres Cordero and Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, this past weekend explained some aspects of their platforms.

Febres Cordero said that the country has been led to catastrophe. According to him, this situation is felt by the common citizen, who is about to experience hunger, with the grave social effects that followed. He added that priorities must be established, and that if he wins the election he will engage first in a struggle against the spiraling price and cost of living increases. In order to do this, he explained, he will try to step up production by giving back some confidence and providing incentives for agriculture.

He will also control public expenditures. This, he went on, should not be viewed as the dismissal of public employees, since those who are honest, responsible, and hard working will be safe. Instead, luxury expenses will be eliminated, and the debt will be renegotiated to make the terms of payment less harsh.

He stressed that his central goals also include the defense of employment and the establishment of rigorous administrative honesty. He added that a climate of trust should be created in this country in order to lure back Ecuadoran capital that has been invested abroad and create more job sources.

Febres Cordero also stressed that it is essential to develop realistic economic policies, that the situation cannot be suddenly improved in 100 days, and that it will be a success if by the end of the first year inflation is reduced by 22 or 23 percent.

Febres Cordero then said that Ecuadoran exports must be made competitive and that the customs taxes must be rationalized to eliminate contraband and increase fiscal revenues.

Candidate Borja Cevallos expressed the belief that the major problem for a Democratic Left government would be that of the unemployment of thousands of Ecuadoreans, for nothing is more cruel and can contradict social justice more than the prevalence of harsh conditions for the people.

He added that agriculture will be his second priority, because at present we produce less than a third of the food needed to feed the Ecuadoran people. If we go on like this, he said, we will all soon starve to death. Therefore, Borja Cevallos went on, aid will be given to the farmers to help them produce more food, reduce shortages, and lower prices, which at present are beyond the means of the Ecuadoran people.

BRIEFS

INCREASE IN EXPORTS -- Ecuador's exports for 1983 showed a 2.7-percent increase over those of 1982. A report issued by the Central Bank indicates that 1983 exports amounted to \$2,198,000,000, while imports for the same period were valued at \$1,245,000,000.

[Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM TALKS IN URUGUAY

PY231305 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 13

[Excerpt] After carrying out successful negotiations, Foreign Minister Carlos A. Saldivar yesterday returned from Montevideo, where he had held important talks with Uruguayan authorities about expanding the free port zone that our country has in Uruguay and about improving trade links.

MOPOCO PRESIDENT MEETS ALFONSIN, RETURN EXPECTED

PY201305 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 20 Jan 84 p 12

[Excerpt] MOPOCO (Colorado Popular Movement) President Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca met with President Raul Alfonsin the day before yesterday, and is expected to return to Paraguay tomorrow. The MOPOCO president also announced that he will soon travel to Venezuela to attend the inauguration of that country's president-elect, Jaime Lusinchi, and to meet with Venezuelan politicians. Gonzalez Basabianca said in Buenos Aires that he had been well received in Paraguay, and that, despite the surveillance that he was under, just like all other MOPOCO leaders, he was able to meet with and to receive the support of fellow party members.

EXILED MOPOCO SECRETARY RETURNS TO COUNTRY

PY231320 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 12

[Excerpt] On returning to the country yesterday, Edgar Jimenez (son of Colonel Enrique Jimenez), secretary of the Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO] Board, said that "I have come to make my small contribution to achieving an integrated and pluralistic democracy that will end the authoritarian regime that our country has endured for so many years." Jimenez was welcomed at the international airport by MOPOCO members, relatives, and friends.

PARAGUAYAN MINISTER SEEKING FREE ZONES IN PORTS

PY200307 Paris AFP in Spanish 2258 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 19 Jan (AFP) -- Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar, who today ends an official 3-day visit to Uruguay, has stated that Paraguayan products will find their outlet to the sea through the establishment of free zones in Uruguay. During his stay in the country, the Paraguayan foreign minister held working meetings with his Uruguayan counterpart, Carlos Maeso, and was received by Uruguayan President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, to whom he delivered a message sent by Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner.

Minister Saldivar's activities were chiefly aimed at obtaining as free zones for his country's overseas trade the Uruguayan ports Fray Bentos, Colonia, and Nueva Palmira on the Uruguay River because of their easy geographical connection to Paraguay and to the main commercial sea routes. Paraguay currently has a 3,500 square meter free depository with a 10,000 ton capacity in Montevideo port.

It was learned that the foreign ministers of the two countries carried out several high level trade negotiations. The Uruguayan Foreign Ministry, however, denied that any integrationist agreements had been signed.

GOVERNMENT TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO MAJOR POSTS

PY240130 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The new head of SEPLACODI [Planning, Coordination and Dissemination Secretariat] might be designated within the next few days. The decision will be made by President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, because General Pedro Aranco, the current SEPLACODI head, will soon leave the post. Although several Armed Forces generals have been regarded as possible candidates for the post, Radio Carve has learned that the position might be held by a civilian. As we have already reported, Rear Admiral Ricardo Largher -- the current director general of Navy Services -- has been persistently mentioned as a possible new SEPLACODI head. The decision will be made known before the end of the month, because Gen Aranco will take over as Army commander on 1 February, replacing Lieutenant General Boscan Hontou, who will retire. By that time, General Julio Cesar Rapela, the 1st Army Corps commander, will also go into retirement. He will be reportedly replaced by General Julio Cesar Bonelli.

Gen Rapella's retirement will also result in the appointment of a new head of the COMPASPO [Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission]. This post may be taken over either by Brigadier General Herbert Pampillon -- the current head of ANCAP [National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement] -- or by General Hugo Medina.

The promotion of several colonels to the rank of general will also involve new assignments for them. Thus, Colonel Washington Varela will have to be replaced as Montevideo police chief. It is possible that the appointment might be announced within the next few days; possible candidates are Colonels (Juan Tyssen) and (Hugo Mermot).

ISSUES OF WEEKLIES BUSQUEDA, AQUI BANNED

PY240149 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The executive branch has decreed the seizure of the weeklies BUSQUEDA and AQUI on the grounds that their issues violated the terms of the decree issued on 2 August 1983. After being censored, the issues of the two weeklies -- which were printed on 17 January 1984 -- were not allowed to circulate because they carried articles and commentaries on political and union matters.

COLORADOS DISCIPLINED FOR ACCEPTING OFFICES

PY231803 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The intendant of Paisandu will explain his conduct to the Colorado Party disciplinary commission with the aid of a group of advisers. This was reported today at noon to Radio El Espectador by the president of the commission which will study the situation of architect (Walte Meluisi) after he accepted the post of communal head of Paisandu Department.

As has already been announced, the Colorado Party departmental convention in Artigas has decided to approve the request for the expulsion of the municipal intendant of that department, who is also a member of the party convention. The request for his expulsion was unanimously approved last night by the party convention of Artigas Department. The resolution gives a 30-day deadline to convention members who have accepted public posts from the Council of State to resign.

ARGENTINE 'DIRTY WAR' LEADERS VACATIONING AT RESORT

PY211800 Paris AFP in Spanish 1322 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Punta del Este, Uruguay, 21 Jan (AFP) -- It was announced today that General Juan Trimarco, one of the high-ranking Argentine officers directly involved with the repressive activities carried out during the so-called dirty war against subversion in Argentina, is staying at this summer resort under a false name.

It was learned that Trimarco, who was commander of the I Corps during Leopoldo Galtieri's presidential term, is residing in a luxury Punta del Este apartment house and that he is periodically in contact with other Argentine military officers who are spending the summer in this resort.

The Argentine military officer was one of the promoters of the so-called military-labor pact that was denounced by current President Raul Alfonsin, and in which Herminio Iglesias, the Peronist candidate for governor of Buenos Aires, was a main protagonist.

Real estate circles in Punta del Este, located at 137 km east of Montevideo, report that many personalities connected to the military government that ruled Argentina between 1976 and 1983 are spending the summer here, as well as many relatives of former Argentine military leaders. They add that these Argentine military officers try not to be identified by the Argentine reporters who daily comb this Uruguayan city trying to detect the presence of some of these sadly famous personalities.

NATIONAL CONGRESS INSTALLED FOR 5-YEAR PERIOD

PA240228 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] A new year has begun for the legislative branch. During an ordinary session the National Congress was formally installed and has begun its new 5-year term, 1984-1989. Forty-seven senators, including 3 life-members, and 200 deputies comprise the legislative chambers. The challenge for this new period is to strengthen and perfect the Venezuelan democratic system. This will be possible with the implementation of important laws and the supervision of public administration. (Reinaldo Leandro Mora), Democratic Action Party representative, has been appointed president of the National Congress, and Hilarion Cardozo will be the first vice president. It is important to stress that Democratic Action holds the majority of seats. Its representation in the National Congress and the Chamber of Deputies is absolute.

The tasks to be fulfilled during these 5 years are many and will include working on and implementing new laws. The installation process was routinely carried out, as it has been in the past. The only difference on this occasion was the date. In the past the National Congress was installed in March, but as of today, 23 January will be the day for all future installations.

LUSINCHI VIEWS FOREIGN DEBT AS PRIORITY

PA201230 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The new government has decided to treat the renegotiation of Venezuela's foreign debt as an affair of state. This announcement was made by President-elect Jaime Lusinchi after he met with the three coordinators of the banking advisory committee. Acting Finance Minister Manuel Azpurua said that the new government will deal with the refinancing of our foreign debt as a team, tolerating no contradictions and working under only one leader.

Lusinchi's government will give priority to the renegotiation of our debt. To do this, Azpurua said that the government will soon begin contacts with the banks' advisory committee.

PCV LEADER CRITICIZES MAS POLITICAL STANCE

PA192126 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Report by Ernesto Vega]

[Excerpts] The Communist Party of Venezuela, PCV, has strongly criticized the Movement for Socialism, MAS. Jesus Faria, a member of the PCV Central Committee, today said that MAS will adopt an accommodating attitude during President Jaime Lusinchi's administration. He added that the MAS has become removed from the leftist parties, becoming more closely aligned with Democratic Action [AD].

[Begin recording] [Faria] The problem is that the list of people who want to join the government is so lengthy that it is probably a bit too late for MAS to get in line.

[Vega] Do you think MAS will adopt an accomodating attitude?

[Faria] Definitely, and it will also be given important positions. It should take only a month or so to see what will happen.

[Vega] Do you think MAS has drawn nearer to AD?

[Faria] What I do know is that it has strayed too far from the left and from minority parties. This nearness to AD is relative and temporary [sentence as heard]. They are not only close now, they have united.

[Vega] How do you visualize the future of MAS?

[Faria, laughing] I see a white future.

[Vega] Why white?

[Faria] Why? Because it is following the same line of treason [words indistinct].  
[end recording]

We also interviewed MAS Secretary General Senator Pompeyo Marquez, who said the accusations made by the PCV Central Committee are unfounded.

[Begin Pompeyo recording] Our future actions will show who is right, the PCV or the MAS. [Words indistinct] we are a socialist and democratic force at the service of social change; and this should not only be proclaimed, but put into practice. We have a political stance, a political attitude; therefore, our future actions will tell whether this unfounded statement by the PCV corresponds to reality. [end recording]

#### NINE LEFTIST GROUPS FORM ELECTORAL ALLIANCE

PA190457 Paris AFP in Spanish 2345 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Caracas, 18 Jan (AFP) -- A [word indistinct] electoral alliance was formed today by the nine parties and groups of the Venezuelan left in preparation for the municipal elections that will be held in the next few months.

The main partners in this alliance are the People's Electoral Movement, the Communist Party of Venezuela, a pro-Soviet party, and a Marxist group known as the New Alternative.

During the general elections held in December 1983, the alliance picked up 3.5 percent of the presidential votes with Jose Vicente Rangel as their candidate, and 6 percent of the parliamentary votes.

The main leftist electoral group, Movement for Socialism, has refused to reach an understanding with this alliance.

#### BRIEFS

REGIONAL NATIONAL GUARD CHIEF -- Brigadier General Luis Ramon Contreras Laguado has been appointed chief of the National Guard's Regional Command No 5, headquartered in Caracas. Contreras, former chief of Regional Command No 3, headquartered in Zulia Department, will assume office 2 January. [Summary] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Jan 84 p A1 PA]

GUATEMALAN REFUGEE CAMPS TO BE RELOCATED

PA202100 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1839 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 20 Jan (DPA) -- The Mexican immigration authorities and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today began the relocation of 15,000 Guatemalan peasants in Chiapas State to remove them from the border, the local press reported.

The newspaper UNOMASUNO said the transfer of the refugees toward the interior of the country was decided following recent "violations of the Mexican border by Guatemalans who attacked several refugee camps."

In confirming the relocation, Waldo Willalpando, UNHCR representative in Mexico, told the newspaper that in the last 2 weeks there have been incursions by "persons from the other side of the border" who "cause much anguish and uncertainty" among the refugees.

He added that the incursions, on which he gave no details, were answered "seriously and responsibly" by the Mexican Government. One of the incidents reportedly occurred in the border camp of Flor de Cafe.

Willalpando said that the exact location of the new settlements has not been determined, but that they will probably be located between two Mexican military posts to provide greater security for the refugees. The number of refugees has been officially estimated as 41,695 in approximately 80 camps.

Waldo Willalpando, whose organization last year spent almost \$4 million in aid to the camps, said that for the refugees as well as for Mexico repatriation is the "ideal solution," but that the Guatemalans "obviously do not seem to want to return."

NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY PLAN INITIATED

PA192332 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 16 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] A national plan for public security was initiated yesterday to combat crime throughout the country and to offer society more order and tranquillity based on more respect for citizens' liberties and the free exercise of their rights.

The executive branch signed several agreements with state governors for better relations and full cooperation among police organizations in order to better guarantee safety throughout the country.

President De la Madrid made this commitment at his inauguration, and later confirmed it.

The program includes purging, modernizing, and coordinating police bodies; implementing the legal means to regulate and watch over the behavior of policemen; adopting modern techniques; and institutionalizing the career of preventative policemen [policia preventivo].

The plan falls under the National Development Plan. As submitted to the president for consideration, it is primarily based on society's demands during the presidential campaign and on President De la Madrid's commitment to the nation.

Basically, the plan consists of a series of joint actions to guarantee reciprocal action among federal entities in order to attain the common goal of legal guarantees to benefit all citizens.

According to the governors, the main outlines of the plan are: amendments in the legal framework of public security organizations, both preventative and legal; implementation of a subprogram of reorganization and technological development; establishment of operating systems; and a program for higher professional levels of human resources through more careful selection, formal training, and incentives.

In the same meeting, the creation of a National Police Academy was approved, in which the executive and judicial branches will participate. The academy will be charged with the training of both low- and high-ranking officers of the preventative and judicial organizations. The state governments will participate in this effort.

#### DE LA MADRID ON OVERCOMING UNDERDEVELOPMENT

FL191612 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0105 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, (Mexico) 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid has stressed that Mexicans must show that underdevelopment is overcome with a progressive and revolutionary attitude, expanding freedom, improving democracy, and implementing social justice.

During a working tour he is making to Chiapas, in the country's southeast, the Mexican president noted that Chiapas has a strategic value to the country because it borders countries experiencing difficulties and facing the problems of violence and war.

Mexico will continue to fight for peace in Central America, respect for the people's self-determination, and to have a Central America ruled by and for Central Americans, he emphasized.

After a meeting to assess and present the Chiapas plan, President De la Madrid praised its progress, because in regard to agrarian matters, this plan has accomplished in 1 year what had not previously been done in 10. Therefore, he declared Chiapas has proved that it is one of Mexico's leading states in the production of basic foodstuffs.

The president said the actions to benefit Indians must be given top priority in Chiapas, but that they must respect the identity of our ethnic groups and extend to them the benefits of overall development.

After noting that the Mexican revolution has not yet fulfilled its mission in Chiapas and that there are places where it is not even known, he presented the need to speed up the implementation of the development policy with a revolutionary spirit and to seek a more just and egalitarian society.

#### BRIEFS

STEEL PRICE HIKE -- In view of the urgent need to prevent the steel concerns from losing capital, technologically bogging down, and paralysis in production and expansion programs, the Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development on 1 January authorized an average price increase of 40 percent for steel and steel byproducts. [Excerpt]  
[Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 4 Jan 84 p 3 PA]

OPPOSITION LEADERS REACT TO ARIAS NOMINATION

PA240354 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Leaders of three opposition parties, the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, MOLIRENA, and the Popular Action Party, PAPO, have been meeting since this morning to analyze the situation that they will face as a result of the Authentic Panamenist Party's decision to nominate Doctor Arnulfo Arias Madrid as its candidate for the May 1984 elections. The meeting is taking place at PDC's headquarters on Peru Avenue. Circuito RPC Television reporter first interviewed the PAPO president, Carlos Ivan Zuniga:

[Begin recording] [Zuniga] We are seeking an alliance among the opposition political parties and to nominate a candidate of this alliance. Dr Arnulfo Arias was nominated by his party; that is its right. In the same way, we have to choose the candidate of the alliance.

[Unidentified reporter] Political observers feel that the nomination of Dr Arias creates a division among the opposition parties that is practically suicide. What is your opinion?

[Zuniga] Dr Arias is not our adversary. Our adversary is the process. The Panamanian people will have to support the candidate that they feel is most opposed to the process.

[Reporter] In view of the serious division among the opposition parties, how can the unity so much desired by some sectors of the Panamanian people be achieved?

[Zuniga] By giving up personal ambitions. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Manuel Solis Palma, a prominent member of MOLIRENA, said:

[Begin recording] [Solis] I believe that at least the three known opposition parties participating in a process of renovation and profound changes will eventually choose their own candidate, who will be a guarantor of work, respect, and a solution to the country's crisis. At any moment, perhaps in 24 or 48 hours, we may announce to the nation our decision. Our party is holding a meeting this afternoon to take the first steps toward a unity of the opposition.

[Reporter] How far would MOLIRENA go to meet the Authentic Panamenist Party to form an alliance?

[Solis] This is a matter to be decided by the party's political commission and the national directorate. However, I do not think there is any possibility of an alliance, at least not at this moment. [end recording]

Finally, Jose Antonio Sosa, a member of the PDC, said:

[Begin Sosa recording] The Authentic Panamenist Party's decision has ended the efforts for unity, for which we had been negotiating for months. [end recording]

LEFTIST PARTIES MEET, NOMINATE CANDIDATES

PA240156 Panama City YA in Spanish 23 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Report by Lisette Carrasco]

[Text] Eduardo Rios, president of the Independent Party of the Working Class (PICO), hinted that "workers will achieve power either with votes or with weapons" in his speech yesterday at the party's convention in the city of La Chorrera. Speaking before numerous workers, Eduardo Rios termed the 1984 election a "deceitful campaign." In his speech, Rios said that the "economic crisis" is being used by the government as political propaganda in order to hide its real interests.

PICO proclaimed Jose Renan Esquivel -- a prominent doctor backed by the United People's Electoral Front -- as its presidential candidate for the coming elections.

Simultaneously, the Revolutionary Party of the Workers, PRT, held its district convention in the same city, 32 km from Panama City and proclaimed Gonzalo Gonzalez -- also a well-known doctor -- as candidate for legislator. During his speech Gonzalez promised that he would work to legalize squatters' occupation of land.

In his speech Renan Esquivel accused the press of "supressing" the truth about organized groups. Esquivel indicated that the 1984 elections will be the first step toward organizing the Panamanian people for their just liberation.

DEFENSE FORCES CONCLUDE 'OPERATION COPE'

PA200435 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama have concluded the military exercises called "Operation Cope," 72 hours after they had started. The exercises were planned by the G-3 of the general staff.

The maneuvers were carried out under the direct supervision of General Manuel Antonio Noriega and the general staff. The purpose of these military exercises was to evaluate the various units' ability to act in joint maneuvers at the battalion level. The exercises were also used to evaluate the physical condition of all the forces that participated in the operation, and to ascertain abilities and limitations in communications, supplies, logistics, and medical services from the military Health Corps. The subordinate officers' leadership abilities were also reviewed.

The Panamanian Air Force played a prominent role by providing support to the operation. Likewise, the military Engineer Corps participated for the first time in the Year 2000 Battalion's tactical activities.

In addition to the exercises, Defense Forces participated in civic activities in the town of El Cope, which included medical assistance to residents of the area during the maneuvers. The Defense Forces members also learned about the socioeconomic needs in the community of Barrigon, mainly concerning a project to provide electricity, which had been abandoned. The civilian population in the area gave their full cooperation, especially Juan Antonio Quiros, the owner of the property where the maneuvers were carried out.

COSTA RICAPOLICE SAID AIDING LOCAL ANTI-SANDINISTS

PA231548 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1920 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jan (EFE) -- The Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR reported here today, in an article by its correspondents in Costa Rica, that high-ranking members of the Costa Rican police are aiding anti-Sandinist rebels operating in Costa Rican territory.

The newspaper, which is one of the most prestigious in Mexico, added that the Costa Rican Government has ample information regarding armed operations by Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary groups in Costa Rican territory.

EXCELSIOR said the report was filed by its correspondent following a tour lasting several days in Los Chiles, Costa Rica, near the Nicaraguan border.

The newspaper explained that the Costa Rican Public Security Ministry has received a great number of reports from residents of that region regarding military activities carried out by the anti-Sandinists or "contras," as they are also called, in Costa Rican territory. The residents have also reported the complicity of "influential" police members headquartered in that area.

EXCELSIOR added that its correspondent had access to the details of reports presented to the ministry which state that other influential police sectors have started a series of operation in Costa Rican territory.

According to EXCELSIOR, a Costa Rican National Security Council official said that those charges are "very serious."

The official also emphasized what he described as a most important task: defending Costa Rica's neutrality in the midst of world conflicts.

EXCELSIOR explained that the division of the Costa Rican police force into "two important police corps" is the cause of conflicts in that border area with Nicaragua, which is a "center of espionage and counterespionage by anti-Sandinists and pro-Sandinists, and through which weapons and food supplies, men and ammunition pass to the rebels of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution."

The newspaper said in conclusion that according to reports submitted to the Public Security Ministry, the division of the police has led the Rural Police to pursue policy that is very different from the principles of neutrality proclaimed by Costa Rica.

MONCE APPOINTS VOLIO AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

PA190214 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Summary] Claudio Antonio Volio Guardia, the current planning and economic policy minister, will be Costa Rica's new ambassador to Washington, President Luis Alberto Monge has announced. The new ambassador, who will also represent his country at the OAS, plans to leave for the U.S. capital in early February. Volio's replacement in the Planning Ministry has not yet been announced.

EL SALVADORPCN DEPUTIES ELECTED TO ASSEMBLY BOARD

PA210300 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 19 Jan 84 pp 3, 15

[Excerpt] Yesterday the Legislative Assembly elected the three remaining members to its board of directors, thus solving a serious problem the assembly was facing.

The new members, Rafael Morales Costaneda, Hugo Carrillo, and Hector Tulio Flores, all three of the National Conciliation Party, PCN, were elected during the third plenary session held this year. Deputies Rafael Soto Alvarenga and Jose Septalin, also of the PCN, were present. All five PCN deputies took their seats in the Legislative Assembly. There were 40 deputies present and 20 absent, 19 from the National Republican Alliance, ARENA, and 1 from the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS.

A motion was submitted to discuss the amendment of Article 6 of the Legislative Assembly by-laws, on the arrangement of the board of directors in the following manner: one president, two vice presidents, and three secretaries.

Article 9 was amended to read that in the absence of the president one of the two vice presidents can take his place, and in the absence of the president and the two vice presidents one of the secretaries can preside over the sessions.

The amendments were approved with 35 votes. There were five abstentions. The PCN deputies did not vote.

The Legislative Assembly is also facing the serious problem of ARENA deputies not attending the sessions.

15 ARRESTED FOR ATTENDING 'SUSPICIOUS' MEETING

PA211602 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date and place not given]

[Text] COPREFA reports to all Salvadoran citizens that at 1100 on Thursday, 19 January, members of the Armed Forces went to the Loyola Spiritual Retreat on Cumbre de Cuscatlan Street, in the Altos de Guadalupe neighborhood of Antiguo Cuscatlan, in San Salvador Department. The Armed Forces had earlier received information that members of the Revolutionary Trade Union Federation, FSR, were holding a meeting there, attended by some dissidents from the People's Liberation Forces, FPL, who have created the Revolutionary Workers' Movement, MOR. The MOR's clandestine activities are under investigation, since it is known that its members plan to continue to increase their pro-communist clandestine and subversive activities among the working class, thus playing the FMLN-FDR terrorist movement's ideological-political game.

A priest in charge of the retreat said that two individuals who said they were members of the COTRAMI cooperative [not further identified] had requested the use of the retreat installations for a meeting of the cooperative. He said that he was unaware that they were FSR members.

When the Armed Forces members arrived, they found a meeting underway involving about 85 people, 15 of whom were detained for investigation. Documents were confiscated that revealed unusual and suspicious methods were used to hold such a meeting. The rest of the people at the meeting were turned over to the priest who was present in the building.

Through use of the appropriate documents, the relatives of the individuals who were detained for investigation, along with humanitarian organizations -- the government's human rights commission and the International Red Cross Committee -- were notified of the arrests. The list of those arrested is as follows: Jose Jeremias Pereira Amaya, Salvador Escalante Chavez, Ruth Alfaro Escalante, Oscar Orlando Rosales Arriola, Linora Ramirez de Pereira, Salvador Ayana Flores, Herbert Orlando Guevara Alfaro, Juan Salvadora Ramos Hernandez, Esteban Gonzalez Perez, Oscar Armando Benavides, Juan Jose Vargas Lemus, Mario Antonio Escamilla Acosta, Magdalena del Carmen Rios Valencia, Marta Raquel Gutierrez Aguilares, and Amanda Ramos de Villegas.

#### Farabundo Marti Condemns Arrests

PA211835 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT  
21 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Some 15 union leaders were arrested yesterday, 19 January. They are members of various trade unions affiliated with the Revolutionary Trade Union Federation, which is legally recognized in accordance with current labor laws. The criminal repressors of the people broke up a meeting these 15 leaders and 70 other trade union leaders and representatives were attending, thus violating one of the most basic human rights -- the freedom of assembly and organization.

The FMLN vigorously condemns and denounces this undemocratic and antipopular action by the dictatorship, which reflects the essential values of these representatives of U.S. interests. Our FMLN calls on all of our people, unions, and humanitarian organizations to express their opposition to the arrest of these 15 trade union leaders and to demand their immediate release.

#### MILITARY REPORTS CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS

##### Power Restored to East

PA232122 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Electricity was restored to the eastern region this afternoon. On Friday, leftists blew up high tension towers near San Vicente Department. We have learned that electricity was restored in Morazan, La Union, San Miguel, and Usulután Departments at 1730.

It has also been reported that in San Miguel Department, near the turnoff to Sociedad in Morazan Department, there was heavy fighting between leftist guerrillas and soldiers early this morning. As a result of the fighting, traffic to the Honduran border via Santa Rosa de Lima and Jocoro was suspended until about 1000, when it was permitted with the protection of the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Military spokesmen of the 3d Military Zone in San Miguel said the number of casualties inflicted on the guerrillas is not yet known but that many dead have been found in that area. The Armed Forces sustained five casualties in this morning's clashes.

In a reemergence of violence in the eastern departments, FMLN guerrillas set fire to the San Luis coffee mill owned by Carlos Garcia Prieto near Moncagua, San Miguel Department. The brief reports received so far do not indicate whether there were any civilian casualties.

## Fighting in Morazan, Usulután

PA240027 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Excerpt] Military sources today confirmed that there was heavy fighting on Sunday in northern Morazan Department, especially north of the Torola River, where a military operation is being carried out with the participation of various detachments, especially commando units and groups of the Cazadores Battalion of the Salvadoran Army. It was reported that two soldiers were wounded in the fighting.

Meanwhile, artillery and Air Force units have continued their attacks on alleged rebel positions north of the Torola River. The military reports do not indicate the number of FMLN casualties.

We now turn to Usulután Department, center of the "Welfare for Usulután" operations, the second such operation carried out in El Salvador in a year. The report from Usulután confirms that there was a clash on Sunday from 1400 to about 1730 in the cantons and villages near the city of Usulután and in the small village of Tierra Blanca. It is reported that two U.S.-made A-37 planes bombed guerrilla positions in the jurisdiction of San Agustín and Tierra Blanca. The bombing ended at around 1800 on Sunday. At the same time, the leftists were being pursued in various areas of Usulután Department, especially near San Agustín and the village of Tres Calles, a place frequently reported as a training and mobilization center for the leftist guerrillas. The number of casualties on both sides, one fighting to reestablish order and the other to remain in their camps in Usulután Department, is unknown. Combat planes have also continued bombing the foothills of (Jucuarán), about 170 km southeast of San Salvador, where the presence of many leftist guerrillas has been detected.

In the country's central zone, reports from Cabanas Department indicate that a small military operation is under way in Victoria, Dolores, and Nuevo Eden de San Juan with the participation of troops of the 3d Brigade in San Miguel and units of the Cobras Detachment in Sensuntepeque. The objective of this counterinsurgency operation is to sweep the area clean of leftists, whose presence has been observed for the past week.

COPREFA ON 'ATTACK' ON NEWSMAN, RECENT CLASH

PA232227 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1645 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee in San Salvador on 23 January]

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, reports to the Salvadoran people, the directors of foreign news media, and the international public the following events:

A Salvadoran reporter was attacked in a cowardly manner by (Timothy Logan), a correspondent of TIME magazine, in the Camino Real Hotel at 1145 on Friday, 20 January, while the Salvadoran newsman was doing his job. He wanted to interview the foreign correspondents who comprised a negotiating commission that worked to obtain the release of many newsmen who had been kidnapped by FMLN terrorists and held in their camps in the border region of Chalatenango Department. When the Salvadoran journalist approached the newsmen, the TIME correspondent brutally attacked him, seized his camera, and exposed its film. It must be noted that none of the newsmen who witnessed the attack intervened in defense of the national reporter. The obvious intention of the attack was to conceal the kidnapping of three newsmen, all correspondents of U.S. news media, by the FMLN terrorists.

The foreign correspondent, aware of his lack of professional ethics, presented a letter of apology to the defense and public security minister and to the head of COPREFA. If this incident had occurred in the United States, the newsmen would have denounced this condemnable attack with indignation.

We issue a call to the Salvadoran people and the international public to condemn this act of brutality by a journalist. The foreign news media have the imperative responsibility to take effective measures to halt the journalistic prejudice against our people, which they have admitted to in international forums.

COPREFA also reports the following: Nine FMLN terrorists died yesterday when they clashed with members of the Atonal Rapid Deployment Battalion. The clash occurred in El Jocote canton, in the jurisdiction of San Agustin, 98 km northeast of San Salvador. The extremists were dislodged from San Agustin as part of the recently begun "Welfare for Usulután" operation, being carried out by the peace force commanded by Colonel Julio Cesar Yanez, commander of the 6th Infantry Brigade.

#### BOMB EXPLOSION ON PLANE LEAVES DEAD, WOUNDED

PA211732 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1601 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (DPA) -- It was reported in San Salvador today that one person was killed and five were wounded when a bomb exploded in an aircraft that was taking off from "El Obrajuelo" airport in the Salvadoran Department of San Miguel.

The Claymore-type bomb, apparently activated by remote control, went off in an "ALAS" airline plane that was taking off with six people aboard en route to the Salvadoran capital, it was said.

The incident, which took place yesterday, left one dead. The pilot was seriously wounded, and the others were also wounded. Carlos Rene Vaquerano, a pilot who was on the aircraft as a passenger, was arrested by the Nicaraguan Sandinist authorities last year when, according to them, he flew through Nicaraguan airspace without authorization.

#### FMLN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE 'TO U.S. PEOPLE'

PA240251 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the FMLN General Command "To the U.S. People"; signed in El Salvador, 18 January]

[Text] On the instructions of President Reagan, the invasion of our country has been planned under the guise of a third phase of the joint maneuvers U.S. troops have been carrying out in Honduras since 5 August 1983.

It has been announced that "Big Pine" or "Ahuas Tara III" will take place in June at the point known as (El Trifinio), where the borders of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala meet. They will include the landing of U.S. troops in Salvadoran territory, near Chalatenango Department, one of the principal bases of the FMLN.

Intelligence sources have indicated that, bearing in mind the unresolved differences with the Guatemalan Government, and, above all, the notable advances of the FMLN, another version is being prepared: moving the maneuvers up to February, staging them in Honduras' southeastern region on the Gulf of Fonseca coast, and having U.S. troops land in Salvadoran territory near Morazan Department, another of the principal bases of the FMLN.

In either of the two versions, "Ahuas Tara III" would be the cover to invade our country in an effort to prevent the Salvadoran people's victory over the 50-year-long genocidal dictatorship that has cost them close to 90,000 dead, 50,000 of them in just the past 4 years.

The danger of invasion increased after the release of the Kissinger commission report, which was enthusiastically received by Reagan but which has been described quite rightly by many Latin American and U.S. personalities as a war plan opposed to the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in the region. We warn that we will consider such landings of foreign troops in Salvadoran territory as what they are, an invasion and an aggression, and we will respond to them militarily as warranted.

No one argues the fact that the FMLN has advanced, defeating the dictatorship and its criminal Army despite the continuous and growing support that the U.S. Government gives it with money, advisers, and weapons. There is only one explanation: The Salvadoran people are on the side of the FMLN. The usual explanations by the White House and the Salvadoran dictatorship consist of saying that our advance is due to the fact that we supposedly receive weapons from Cuba and the Soviet Union. If these arguments were true, why is the dictatorship's Army being defeated, despite having more soldiers and officers, more and better weapons, including airplanes, helicopters, and ships, which we totally lack, the state machinery, and even more, the militant support of the U.S. Government, the most economically and militarily powerful nation in the West, a few hours' flying time away from our country?

How can one explain these realities without accepting the fact that the Salvadoran people are determined to overthrow the dictatorship at the cost of the supreme sacrifices they are making? The great majority of the soldiers of the dictatorship's Army are recruited through abduction in the agricultural plantations, on the streets of cities, in buses, and coming out of schools, stadiums, theaters, and workshops. They are not fighting of their own free will, which is why they desert in increasing numbers or often surrender without fighting and which is why more than a few ask to join the ranks of the FMLN. Many of the relatives of the deserters are taken hostage by the Army to force the deserters to return to the garrisons. The people complain daily of all this.

The U.S. taxpayers' money that the Reagan government sends to the dictatorship is increasingly eaten up by the theft of the corrupt military and political leadership. Can this be called popular support, democracy, national will, etc? The U.S. military advisers know this situation very well, and the U.S. people should demand a public and honest report from them.

Thus, it is very clear that if the U.S. troops invade us, they will be fighting against the Salvadoran people, completely determined, and not against a handful of terrorists, as the White House usually calls us.

The United States will involve itself here in a long and dirty war in which its officers and soldiers will cover themselves with disgrace, needlessly killing tens of thousands of unarmed people and destroying poor villages and cities. Many of those U.S. citizens will also die needlessly in our country, bringing mourning to thousands of simple and hardworking U.S. families. In the end, the revolution will be victorious, but dishonor will mark the history of the United States and will cast a cloud over our relations, which we want to be constructive and friendly, and over U.S. relations with all of Latin America. In this way, sowing winds, those who rule the United States will reap new tempests, acting like arrogant and implacable emperors over our peoples.

We do not want to be involved in a war with the United States. We do not want more Salvadoran blood to be shed. We do not want our country to suffer more destruction. Neither do we want to kill U.S. youths. There should be no doubt that we will kill many if one takes into account our considerable fighting experience and the fact that we will be fighting in the land that we know inch by inch and that we love because it is our homeland, while the invaders will be strangers and will not have the motivation that inspires courage and determination.

Consistent with this conviction, for 3 years we have insisted on proposed negotiations to reach a just and honorable political solution for our people. The Ronald Reagan government has systematically prevented this with the unruly cooperation of the multimillionaire and criminal Salvadoran oligarchy, which prefers the destruction and depopulation of the country to losing its insulting privileges. Even part of the Army is in favor of negotiating peace, and peace would have already been achieved if the U.S. Government had wanted it despite the violent obstinacy of the oligarchy.

We are for a negotiated political solution. We propose the installation of a broadly representative government, the purging of the Army, the dissolution of the criminal police forces, the integration of a single national army, the necessary socioeconomic transformations, and, on this basis, the holding of truly democratic and honest general elections.

Under the reign of the dictatorship, the death squads, and the slaughter of the civilian population by the Army, there cannot be free elections deserving to be called democratic. We have quite rightly refused to lay down weapons to participate in the electoral farce scheduled for March. To argue that we are a danger to U.S. security is a gross lie. Facts show that the United States, which is arming the genocidal forces to the teeth and is preparing to invade us, is today the greatest destroyer of the life, security, and independence of the Salvadoran people.

If the United States wants it, we repeat, there will be negotiations and peace, but if it prefers, there will be an invasion, dirty war, dishonor for the North Americans, and, in the end, victory for the revolution. The decision is in Washington's hands. The Reagan government should give the U.S. people the opportunity to have a say in this decision before sending their sons to kill pregnant women, children, and old people and to die without glory for an unjust cause.

[Signed] El Salvador, 18 January 1984, FMLN General Command, Commander Roberto Roca, Commander Leonel Gonzalez, Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, Commander Shafick Jorge Handal, Commander Joaquin Villalobos

#### U.S. REPORT ON MILITARY VICTORY PLAN CITED

PA202208 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] According to AFP, which had access to confidential documents, the top U.S. military strategists have designed a plan to obtain military victories over the FMLN in Nicaragua. [as heard]. According to the news agency, the confidential document intends to create a new army in El Salvador, made up of 52 counterinsurgency units and 6 rapid deployment battalions, which would amount to a total of 49,899 troops. The plan is designed so that this new army, which would replace an already defeated army, can obtain a military victory over the FMLN before October 1985.

Concerning Nicaragua, the plan is based on the massive presence of the U.S. Army and multimillion dollar aid for the Somozist counterrevolutionaries. Honduras is the keystone in this plan against the Nicaraguan people.

Politically, the United States would try to obtain a consensus among the Central American nations against Nicaragua.

AFP reported that the plan is already underway, with the holding of the "Big Pine I and II" military maneuvers, while other steps are being announced, such as the creation of permanent Honduran-U.S. military bases, a Guantanamo-type base in Honduran territory, and the installation of radar, field hospitals, and other infrastructure needed for the intervention.

To carry out these plans, the warmongering Reagan administration needs to make a multimillion dollar investment. This is the reason for the creation of the so-called Kissinger bipartisan commission, which would draft the financing for such war plans. A ranking U.S. military officer said he could not explain how the Contadora Group survives, when its peace efforts are way behind the military preparations. One of these days, he noted, we will awake immersed in a war in Central America. Despite its alleged support for the Contadora Group, the Reagan administration prepares and plans for war. In this respect the report and recommendations of the so-called Kissinger commission are merely the financial complement to the plans already drafted by the U.S. Armed Forces.

That is why the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador are engaged in intense preparations to meet and to defeat the imperialist intervention.

#### FMLN ALLEGES KILLING BY HONDURAN ARMED FORCES

PA200439 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] We have received information that Honduran Armed Forces' troops once more have shed Salvadoran blood. This time, soldiers of Alvarez Martinez' army last Wednesday, 18 January, in the afternoon, killed a young Salvadoran youth named Jeremias.

The crime was perpetrated in our territory at the place where the San Antonio and Torola Rivers meet, near the town of Joateca, Morazan Department. In this zone Honduran troops continuously walk about in our national territory as if they owned it.

We reject the aggressive attitude of the Catracha [Honduran] dictatorship's troops, advised and equipped by the Gringos, who today maintain their occupation Army in that sister republic.

#### ARMY INCIDENTS, KISSINGER REPORT DEPLORED

PA240221 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A member of a paratrooper battalion, commanded by Colonel Juan Rafael Bustillo, threw a fragmentation grenade in the municipal market in San Martin, San Salvador Department, when it was crowded with people engaged in commercial activities. A total of 15 [as heard] persons were injured and one killed. In Mexicanos, two soldiers of the Civil Defense opened fire on one another; both died.

These types of incidents are becoming frequent in the Army, and they confirm the mental state of the regime's troops, who are attacking innocent civilians without provocation at parties, commercial centers, and in crowded streets. In another report, war criminal Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, National Police director, who uses the alias Aquiles Baires as a member of the death squads, told newsmen that so far he has no evidence of wealthy families' controlling the death squads from Miami.

Lopez Nuila has refused to expel Army officers linked to the death squads from the country. He said that El Salvador is not the only country where these criminal bands exist, mentioning the Ku Klux Klan in the United States, a racist organization controlled by the big transnationals and Pentagon officers, as some U.S. magazines have revealed.

A few days ago Lopez Nuila, who is a member of the dictatorship's Human Rights Commission, was included on a list of militarymen linked to the death squads. The list was issued by a U.S. human rights commission presided over by former U.S. Ambassador Robert White and published by THE NEW YORK TIMES.

In another incident last weekend, the committee of mothers of the political prisoners and disappeared of El Salvador reported that young Roberto Martinez Celada Arriola was still in a coma following the brutal torture to which he was subjected by the regime's repressive forces.

The Sunday homily at San Salvador's Catholic cathedral scored the Kissinger commission report, indicating that it will contribute to prolonging the war and its aftermath of death and suffering. The church also denounced the brutal methods used by dictatorship's Army to draft young men, increasing the sorrow of Salvadoran mothers.

#### REBEL SYMPATHIZERS IN ARMY TO RECEIVE MESSAGE

PA201650 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Attention, attention: This is an announcement for the FMLN's sympathizers, collaborators, and militants who have been recruited by the dictatorship's Army. These sympathizers, collaborators, and militants should remain alert for specific instructions that will be sent to them.

#### AIR FORCE ACCUSED OF BOMBING CIVILIANS

PA210308 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] While the dictatorship's Army says that it has begun a new operation called "Welfare for Usulután," the dictatorship's Air Force has intensely bombed and strafed the residents of San Agustín, also in Usulután Department. Today we received the following report from Andres Pena, our correspondent on the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front.

[Begin recording] For Radio Farabundo Marti, this is your correspondent on the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front.

On Tuesday, 17 January, airplanes belonging to the dictatorship's Air Force bombed and strafed the cantons and hamlets in the jurisdiction of San Agustín, Usulután Department. This new fascist air attack against the defenseless civilian residents of the area lasted 1 hour and was carried out by a push-and-pull [in English] airplane and by an A-37. During the attack, which began around noon, the homes of the poor peasants were destroyed and panic and terror was sowed among the residents of the area.

Only a few weeks away from the much-talked-about elections imposed by the United States, and when human rights appear to be the current topic of the regime and the U.S. Government, the residents of that eastern area have been subjected to constant, indiscriminate bombings that violate the sacred principle of man's right to life.

For a homeland free of repression, all the people make revolution. Repression and intervention will not stop the revolution. [end recording]

This is the dictatorship's plan of peace and well-being for the residents of Usulután Department. If the famous area reconstruction plan turned out to be a failure in the rebel Department of San Vicente -- as was said by the same Yankee military advisers who are in Usulután -- it will also be defeated by the constant activities of our experienced forces on the eastern front.

If 6 months ago the Army had the opportunity to concentrate more than 6,000 soldiers in San Vicente, today it does not have the political and military capacity for such an operation. The Yakees are trying to repeat the Vietnam-like San Vicente operation in Usulután, but it failed in the past and will also fail here.

We demand an end to the indiscriminate bombings of defenseless civilian residents in Usulután Department. We demand respect for the human rights of all our people.

#### GUATEMALA

##### ELECTORAL BILL TO BENEFIT TRADITIONAL PARTIES

PA201908 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Several doubts were raised today by the recent approval of General Oscar Mejia Victores' government of the electoral bill, after some corrections were added to it. According to reports, the traditional parties will benefit most from this decision.

The parties will be afforded greater opportunities with a system of mixed candidacies, thus eliminating the new committee for the formation of political parties and the civic committees.

Despite the reaction produced by the government's decision, several committees for the formation of political parties have joined forces to determine the programs and platforms that they will offer the people on 1 July, when a national constituent assembly is elected.

The first group, which has already begun its activities, consists of the MLN [National Liberation Movement], the CAN [National Authentic Central], the PNR [National Renovating Party], and the DCG [Guatemalan Christian Democracy]. These groups plan to hold a joint press conference on Monday, 23 January, at the Camino Real Hotel.

Meanwhile, several well-known politicians have announced that they may run for the assembly. However, Article 117 of Chapter 17 of the Constitution, which forbids anyone who held positions in the government deposed on 23 March 1982 from running for office, is still in force; for this reason, several politicians will have to give up their plans and make way for new faces in the next constituent assembly.

#### Contents Outlined

PA220258 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The process of returning to constitutionality entered a new phase in Guatemala today with the promulgation of the electoral law establishing the rules for the election of a new National Constituent Assembly.

The new law has set 1 July as the date for the election of the assembly, which must be installed in office by 31 August at the latest. It is to be comprised of a total of 88 deputies, 65 of them elected from district rolls and 23 from national rolls. According to the law, the constituent assembly's duties will be to draft first a new political constitution; second, the electoral law; and third, the laws on appeals, habeas corpus, and constitutionality. The law also specifies that people who held public office by election or appointment before 23 March 1982, the date of President Romeo Lucas Garcia's overthrow by a military coup, as well as immediately relatives of the head of state and his ministers, members of the Supreme Court of Justice, and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will not be allowed candidacy to the assembly. Politicians or their representatives will be allowed to witness the electoral ballot printing process to certify the total number of ballots printed.

Among provisions removed from the law was the requirement that a minimum of four percent of the total vote be obtained during the election for a committee for the formation of political party to continue to exist. It was stated that it is possible that a committee might not obtain such a percentage during its first participation, but might do so later.

The voting procedure will be the same one followed on previous occasions in Guatemala. The law defines so-called electoral crime and the penalties to be leveled on violators, ranging from 3 months' to 3 years' imprisonment.

All those who take part in acts or plans to prevent, suspend, falsify, adulterate, or in any way impair the electoral process or its outcome for their own benefit or for the benefit of a political group or political interests will be committing an electoral crime.

It was also reported that members of the self-defense patrols will be allowed to take part in the elections. This point had been discussed by various sectors before the law was promulgated. These patrols, consisting of approximately 500,000 members, were created during President Efraín Ríos Montt's administration to combat the guerrillas more efficiently in the country's villages and towns. In addition, those over 60 years old, illiterate, out of the country, or having a physical or any other kind of impairment acknowledged by the electoral authority in charge will not be required to vote. General Oscar Mejía Victores, the Guatemalan head of state, also said that the clandestine Guatemalan Labor Party, PGT, which is communist, will not be allowed to take part in the elections, because it is a member of the so-called Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, an organization comprised of the revolutionary groups operating in the country which operates outside the law.

Mejía Victores also stressed that he will not participate in politics, even if asked to do so. He said that as soon as he fulfills his government duties he will go fishing.

#### MEJIA DENIES SPONSORING DIAZ-DURAN CANDIDACY

PA202105 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Guatemalan head of state Oscar Mejía Victores has said that the clandestine Guatemalan Labor Party, or Communist Party, will not be able to participate in any electoral activity because of its illegal status. [Mejía Victores recording indistinct] Mejía flatly dismissed his government's participation in political activities during the next electoral process and denied that the government is sponsoring Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Díaz-Durán's presidential candidacy, as has been mentioned in some news media. [Mejía Victores recording indistinct]

REOPENING OF BORDER WITH EL SALVADOR ANNOUNCED

PA240151 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The border between El Salvador and Guatemala was reopened yesterday at 0000, after being closed for 58 days. The council that decided to reopen the border is not completely clear regarding the benefits our country will derive from this action. It would seem the Guatemalan Government accepted conditions that establish a readjustment of trade relations with El Salvador. Guatemala agreed to suspend the import license requirement for Salvadoran products in exchange for El Salvador's establishment of free entry for products from our country, according to an agreement signed by representatives of both countries, who certainly were not ministers of state.

To arrive at this agreement, the negotiators took into account the recommendations of the ministers of (?integration), who met a few days earlier in the Salvadoran capital. According to the document, the points of view of the merchants and industrialists of both countries were also heard. However, a [word indistinct] of the document states that apparently the obstacles that existed did not originate in El Salvador. Guatemala agreed to have its imports [word indistinct], which is tantamount to saying that this was one of the most serious obstacles. The questions that arise are the following: Why did Guatemala and not El Salvador give in, if in our economy minister's opinion the problems were aggravated by Salvadoran intransigence, but the agreement states that El Salvador maintains its status quo while Guatemala gives in? Did the problems that caused the closing of the border originate in Guatemala? These are the questions for our economy minister. The agreement also refers to a 5-day time limit for the Central Banks of both countries to process the import registries and a similar time limit for payment for imports, which will be channeled through the Central American Chamber of Compensation in Central American Pesos [Camara Centroamericana de Compensaciones en Pesos Centroamericanos]. However, the agreement also states that these payments can be made through other instruments of bilateral compensation and that the balances should be paid with dollars. On this point, the shortage of foreign exchange in Guatemala does not seem to have affected those who signed this agreement -- two lower-level officials -- in a document of unquestionable importance.

BOMB EXPLODES IN AIRPORT; DAMAGE MINIMAL

PA211841 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] It was reported today that a bomb planted at Guatemala City Airport went off in the fuel station on the airport's northern runway. While civil aeronautics firemen kept the explosion from doing great damage, security forces tried to capture those who planted the bomb, but no further reports on the incident have been received so far tonight. Following the initial alarm produced by the explosion, which took place at about 1700, normal activities at the airport resumed. So far, no extremist organization has claimed responsibility for this attack.

PARTY LEADERS VIEW 'NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR'

PA212201 Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish 20 Jan 84 p 8

[Text] Edmundo Lopez Duran, leader of the committee for the formation of the United Revolutionary Front, FUR, has expressed his desire that Harry Shlaudemann, new U.S. ambassador to Guatemala, maintain a stance of respect for the Guatemalan people's genuine right to solve their own problems and follow the path of authentic democracy.

Lopez admitted that Frederic Chapin had respected the decisions of the Guatemalan Government regarding the political process.

According to the PR [Revolutionary Party], the U.S. Government replaces one of its ambassadors only if a change occurs at the White House or if the U.S. Government thinks the diplomat to be replaced is not the best man to carry out these strategies, leader Edmundo Guerrero said, recommending that this aspect be very seriously considered. He added, however, that he did not dare say whether the change would be for better or worse. Guerrero said that the arrival of a new ambassador might contribute to carrying out the political process about to start and would also help improve Guatemala's image if more truthful accounts of events here are presented.

Yesterday Christian Democratic leader Dario Acuna said: Although we know that this is an internal move by the U.S. Government, the change in ambassadors is good politically, because reports on Guatemala's situation have not been presented truthfully. He made this declaration upon learning of Schlaudemann's appointment to replace Chapin.

Acuna said he hopes that the new ambassador identifies himself with Latin American interests and aids in our country's democratization process.

#### BRIEFS

WEAPONS SHIPMENT -- Guatemala City, 18 Jan (EFE) -- Under strict security measures, the 12,000 rifles that the Guatemalan Government had purchased from Israel and that were detained in Miami, Florida, for 3 weeks due to a customs problem, were moved from Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic coast to Guatemala City. According to the authorities, the rifles will be used for training purposes. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0623 GMT 19 Jan 84 PA]

#### HONDURAS

##### NAVY COMMANDER DISCUSSES SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE

PA211400 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Navy Commander General Humberto Montoya has hinted that the Honduran Armed Forces could occupy Meanguera Island should circumstances warrant, because it is part of Honduras' sovereign national territory.

Shortly after an approximately 4-hour National Security Council meeting, Gen Montoya said that the Armed Forces are able to maintain and exercise national sovereignty. The high-ranking officer said: "The Armed Forces are capable of exercising sovereignty over all of our national territory if the situation so demands."

The naval force "extends its patrols to Meanguera, and we believe that we have a basis for doing so. There are documents in the Foreign Ministry that will in the future claim, maintain, and verify, through diplomacy and future negotiations, that the island of Meanguera belongs to Honduras," Montoya said.

Gen Montoya acknowledged that joint patrols and mutual support operations are being carried out with the Salvadoran Coast Guard, "because of the situation that prevails in Central America. I think that if we have aided El Salvador, we have done so for security reasons, because we maintain diplomatic, commercial, and other kinds of relations with El Salvador and we have a common enemy, which is international communism, which is trying to take over all of Central America," he said.

On Monday in Puerto Cortes, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, the chief of the Armed Forces, will inaugurate some of the modern equipment that the Honduran Naval Forces has received.

"The high command has sought the overall development of its forces. Some resources and modern equipment have arrived in our country to help us to fulfill our mission efficiently," Montoya said.

The equipment to be inaugurated next Monday in Puerto Cortes will provide better mobility and "will guarantee us greater protection of our territorial sovereignty and integrity."

The Honduran Navy commander said that there are frequent armed clashes with Sandinist troops in Honduran territorial waters, which the troops of that country often enter.

In the Gulf of Fonseca, "there is an irregular situation, because it has been used as a center for the shipment of arms to El Salvador. When these Nicaraguan fishing or patrol boats enter legitimate Honduran territory, incidents occur in which our people have had to defend our sovereignty, rather than permit this kind of abuse," he said.

Montoya added: I reject the charges that the Honduran Naval Forces are supporting the "Piranha" patrol boats that are attacking Nicaraguan ports, because "our vessels have neither attacked nor entered Nicaraguan territory (water) as part of any operation. We respect the treaties, laws, and policies of the central government, and we have never helped or agreed to help third forces to carry out attacks from Honduran territory. If these forces do exist, we know absolutely nothing about them," Gen Humberto Montoya concluded.

#### NICARAGUA

##### CONSERVATIVES ON ELECTIONS, PARTY LEADERSHIP

PA202142 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Jan 84

["Direct Line" phone-in program with unidentified moderator and panel members Clemente Guido and Hernaldo Zuniga Montenegro, members of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, at Radio Sandino's studios in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] Doctor Clemente Guido, why is there a division within the Conservative Party?

[Guido] In reality there is no division; our foundations are firm and our mid-level leaders are united. However, there are differences in criteria among our highest leaders. The Conservative Party currently has two leaders, one regularly selected, the other not. This is a rare phenomenon, perhaps a chance occurrence. The division or separation existing among our leaders originated with our former national coordinator, Miriam Arguello, in her desire to be reelected for another term. By definition, conservatives are opposed to continuation in office and reelection, even within our own organization. This created a conflict, and a conservative citizen from Jinotega appealed to the Supreme Court, saying that some abnormalities were taking place in the organization and that there was no national electoral committee, which should supervise the organization's elections. The Supreme Court then ordered the suspension of all of the party's conventions, both departmental and national.

However, in her eagerness to be reelected, Doctor Arguello went ahead and held the convention, despite the court's suspension. We refused to participate in a convention that was going to be annulled, but she went ahead. Some people went along with her, and a board of directors was elected, and then the same Jinotega citizen, Sergio Torres Obregari, requested the nullification of everything that had been done at that convention.

The Supreme Court annulled the convention, making the board that was elected at the convention very angry, and the earlier National Executive Council resumed authority, quite naturally. Now there are talks underway that will lead to the solution of our leadership problem. However, I want to make it clear that our party is not divided, because its membership is not divided; there is only a difference in criteria among the top leaders, which I am certain will be resolved within the next 15 days.

[Unidentified caller] Dr Clemente Guido and Hernaldo Zuniga, what government program would you develop for the great majority of the Nicaraguan people, were you to win the elections?

[Guido] Thank you for this question, because it gives me the opportunity to make some things clear. In the first place, I have never voted, and I hope to vote in the next elections. Secondly, the ideology, doctrine, and platform of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCDN] was updated on 18 March 1979, shortly before the triumph of the revolution, when three conservative parties that had been opposed to one another joined forces. The fourth conservative party, which collaborated with the government, disappeared with that government. Our platform is a moderate one, which allows for progressive concepts, including freedom of trade unions, sharing of utilities between management and workers, and participation of workers in the administration of firms, which is called the coherence of firms. We are essentially anti-interventionists, opposed to any type of intervention, from any source, and our declaration of principles states this clearly. We believe essentially in pluralism, which means that we do not represent the interests of any one class, but believe that the three classes are absolutely necessary to the functioning of the Nicaraguan state. However, we work to ensure that most benefits go to the underprivileged, the laborer and peasant classes, while holding that both the laborer and the peasant must work. We do not promise that they may sit down and will be given whatever they need. We also hold that the middle class is the leading class in Nicaragua. The middle class, which includes the small industrialist, the small worker, the journalist, the professional, and the lawyer, is the class that must bear the leadership in this country, because we are the ones who produce and who permit the country to advance.

We hold that the Nicaraguan middle class should lead this country for two reasons: first, because the plutocratic or bourgeois class has already fulfilled its mission in 163 years of history, and could not solve the social and economic problems of the working and peasant classes in Nicaragua; and second, because the workers and peasants are not yet prepared to become true revolutionaries. These are the principles of the current PCDN, and our party is controlled by the working and professional class, like those of us here. We no longer have, or rather, we have fewer representatives of the plutocracy among our leaders.

[Journalist Gustavo Montalban] My question is for Doctor Zuniga Montenegro. Please clarify how the voting is going to be carried out with regard to the constituent assembly and the president and vice president. Will it be done at the same time? I think you can clarify this situation.

[Guido] The PCDN has not officially decided whether it will participate in the elections.

[Zuniga] Gustavo's question is very interesting, and I will answer it in the following manner. The proposition made by the responsible commission of the State Council is that the members of the constituent assembly, the president, and the vice president be elected at the same time. I feel that it would be constitutionally unsound to hold the elections this way, especially from a juridical point of view. Why? It is very simple.

The qualities, functions, and requirements that a president of the Republic should fulfill are very important, so the rules that regulate these elements should be established before the elections.

Then what can we do? First, hold the elections for the members of the constituent assembly; once they are elected, the constituent assembly can formulate the political constitution of the country, within which will be rules on the qualities, requirements, and functions of the president of the Republic. Once established, the constituent assembly should proceed to elect the president and vice president in line with the rules that the constituent assembly has decreed. I think this is how it should be handled, within a very constitutionally oriented plan.

[Moderator] Do you think there should be two elections, Doctor?

[Zuniga] Yes, there should be two elections, the election of the constituent assembly, the promulgation of the political constitution, and the election by the constituent assembly of the president and vice president of the Republic. The problem is that we have to actually do this.

[Guido] What is hard for me to understand, is how we can talk about a president without a constitution? We need a constitution to set the foundation of the country's social, political, and economic system. As long as we do not have a constitution, we do not know what type of government we are going to have -- it could be socialist or any other type. The constitution would also establish the form of legislative system we are going to have. I really do not understand the way we are doing things.

Therefore, I agree with Dr Hernaldo Zuniga. First, we need a constitution, that will establish whether we are going to have a president, a prime minister, or a junta. Probably a junta would be best for Nicaragua, in which the three parties that obtain the most votes would have the right to be represented in the junta. This would be democratic and in line with pluralism.

[Moderator] Do you have a candidate whom you feel can play an important role in the elections?

[Zuniga] We do, but we will announce him at the PCDN convention.

[Moderator] There are rumors that Doctor Cordova Rivas will be the candidate. Will you support Cordova Rivas?

[Guido] Dr Cordova Rivas has publicly announced that he will be the Democratic Coordinating Board candidate; therefore, he cannot be the PCDN candidate.

#### ARDE COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR INCREASED WEAPONS AID

PA211851 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0005 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, on 20 January "at the ARDE offices in Costa Rica"]

[Text] Peoples of the world: Due to the mass incorporation of fighters in to the ranks of ARDE, which is struggling against the Managua totalitarian regime in the southern and Atlantic areas of Nicaragua, and due to the lack of resources to equip more than (21,000) unarmed men who are in a critical situation, out of a total of 7,000 who comprise our troops, the ARDE High Command is assessing the situation in order to find a solution.

Some promises to help ARDE that were made by various countries' democratic sectors have not been kept completely and the aid received so far is not sufficient to meet the Nicaraguan people's great demand for weapons in southern Nicaragua, which they need to overthrow totalitarianism.

We will continue to inform the world of our situation. We reaffirm that, despite its difficulties, ARDE will fulfill its historic commitment to rescue the Nicaraguan revolution from the Marxist-Leninist hands that have usurped and betrayed it.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

#### ARDE ON AMBUSHES OF INTERIOR MINISTRY SQUADS

PA220131 Paris AFP in Spanish 2333 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] headed by Eden Pastora has announced having inflicted 25 casualties on the Sandinists in five clashes in southern Nicaragua on 17 and 19 January 1984. In a communique distributed today in San Jose, where the offices of this organization are located, ARDE said that there were two clashes on 17 January in La Reforma, Nueva Guinea jurisdiction, in which the Sandinists sustained seven casualties and one ARDE member was killed.

The communique reported three clashes on 19 January, one of them in Nueva Guinea, where five Sandinist Army members were ambushed, one of whom was killed and another wounded.

Without specifying where, the communique affirmed that ARDE forces ambushed a 10-man Interior Ministry squad on the same day, inflicting five casualties, and subsequently attacked a house serving as quarters for another Interior Ministry squad, inflicting eight casualties.

The ARDE communique reaffirmed that its forces control 6,500 square km of land in southern Nicaragua.

#### BRIEFS

NEW DEPUTY TRANSPORTATION MINISTER -- Commander Jose Valdivia, who is current director of the New Nicaraguan Railroad Plan [Proyecto Nuevo Ferrocarril de Nicaragua -- PROFENIC], assumed office as deputy minister of transportation 7 January. He replaces Carlos Molina Olliv, who has joined the Sandinist People's Army, EPS. [Summary] [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Jan 84 p 10 PA]

VIETNAMESE MINISTER ARRIVES TO SIGN TRADE PACT

FL232108 Havana Domestic Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Le Khac, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and minister of foreign trade, arrived in Cuba to sign the 1984 commercial trade agreement. He was greeted at the Jose Marti International Airport by Ricardo Cabrizas Ruiz, Cuban minister of foreign trade, along with Andres Yebra Garcia, vice minister of foreign trade; Hoang Luong, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Cuba; and other Vietnamese and Cuban officials.

Vietnamese trade has increased at a constant rate during the past few years, basically since the unification of the country, which was accomplished by the triumph of the Vietnamese people over Yankee imperialism and the puppet government.

PORTUGUESE CP SECRETARY GENERAL DEPARTS

FL231340 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party, has arrived in Managua on a visit that is to last several days at the invitation of the Nicaraguan Government. The Portuguese communist leader and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Managua from Havana where he completed a visit to our country.

Jesus Montane, alternate member of the party's Politburo and chief of the Central Committee's Foreign Relations Department, saw Cunhal and his delegation off at the airport.

Prior to his departure, Cunhal stated that the exchange of views with Cuban Communist Party leaders has been very helpful in better evaluating the serious problems affecting humankind.

Arrives in Managua

PA230324 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] PCP Secretary General Alvaro Cunhal said on his arrival in Managua on Sunday: We arrive in Nicaragua with great confidence and the assurance that these heroic people will win. Cunhal, who arrived in the Nicaraguan capital from Havana, explained that he intends to obtain firsthand knowledge of Nicaraguan reality. He is fully convinced that nothing and no one will turn back the Sandinist revolution.

He added that with this visit, the PCP wishes to express its absolute solidarity with a nation struggling heroically in defense of its independence against U.S. imperialism. Shortly before his departure from Havana, the Portuguese Communist leader stated that he was able to speak with Cuban officials about the tense international situation, especially in Central America, and the crisis created in that region by the United States' aggressive policy.

CUBANS IN PERUVIAN EMBASSY ON HUNGER STRIKE

PA240438 Paris AFP in Spanish 0355 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 23 Jan (AFP) -- The Human Rights Commission of the Chamber of Deputies received word today that 14 Cubans who sought asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana have been on a hunger strike since last 16 December, demanding that the Cuban authorities allow them to leave the country.

Jorge Diaz Leon, president of the commission, received the information from a Cuban couple staying at Tupac Amaru Park in La Victoria district. They indicated that the 14 hunger strikers, 3 of whom are in serious condition, were among the almost 400 who occupied the Peruvian Embassy in Havana in April 1980. Of these 400, 16 of the 31 [numbers as received] who remained at the Peruvian Embassy until last December left the embassy after being deceived by the Castroite authorities, they added.

Diaz Leon also received a request that arrangements be expedited to permit the 14 Cubans to leave for the United States, where they have relatives. They also gave the commission president a list identifying the strikers as Joaquin Leal Miranda, 39; his son by the same name, 19; Ricardo Feiaoo, 29; Antonio Diaz Ortega; Jesus Valdez, 26; Felino Ramirez Batista, 56; Eduardo Herrera, 34; Maria Antonia Martinez, 32; Lazaro Jesus Vega, 15; Raul Diaz Molina, 21; Fidel Martinez, 20; Angel Vasquez; Radames Gomez, 28; and Jorge Artilez.

#### Embassy Sources Deny Report

PA240458 Paris AFP in Spanish 0444 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Havana, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Sources close to the Peruvian Embassy in Cuba denied here tonight that 14 Cubans who have been seeking asylum in the Peruvian Embassy since 1980 are on a hunger strike, as was announced in Lima by the Human Rights Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. "Everything is normal," the source stated. "Those are lies."

Nevertheless, it is recalled that last December three of the Cubans who sought asylum in that embassy went on a hunger strike and were taken to a hospital in Havana. They recovered after a few days and returned again to the embassy, according to official Peruvian reports.

#### DOMENECH ANNOUNCES FORUM ON ENERGY CONSERVATION

FL191500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpts] At a news conference, Joel Domenech, vice president of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the National Energy Commission, announced that the First National Forum on Energy will be held in November.

He read a document issuing a call to abide by the accords of our party's eighth Plenum and to work in 1984 with more efficiency and more ambitious goals in the energy conservation field.

The general schedule for this forum establishes that during April and May, and in coordination with the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], an analysis on energy conservation will be made in every government agency. A specific plan will be drafted at each of these meetings, and its implementation will be subsequently assessed in municipal and provincial meetings to be held from August to October.

In addition to announcing this forum, Domenech supplied some data which prove that energy was used with greater efficiency in 1983:

[Begin Domenech recording] It is our opinion that it will be the most important energy conservation event held in our country. We must recall that 1983 was a year of important results in our work because we achieved greater efficiency in the use of the energy available to us. This can be proven with a specific report: The economy grew by 5 percent while total energy consumption was up a mere 1.7 percent and oil byproducts expenditures were up 0.3 percent. This means that we had an overall oil savings figure of more than 500,000 tons. Electricity use grew less than was expected, and the consumption of diesel and gasoline was 2 percent less than in 1982. [end recording]

In conclusion, Domenech noted that, based on the decisions made at the party's Sixth Plenum, the technical and organizational groundwork for better planning and control of our energy in 1983 was laid. This groundwork includes the efforts of the National Energy Commission, the energy conservation campaign, and the boost being given to the development of new sources of energy.

COMMENTARY TERMS HONDURAS 'U.S. MILITARY BASE'

PA222350 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Involved in its military activities, the Honduran regime has neglected the country's economic situation, which has rapidly deteriorated in recent years. Turned into a big military base by the United States, Honduras is reaching levels of total poverty. There are tens of thousands of unemployed, and the high cost of living has reached historic levels.

Production of cacao, coffee, cotton, and corn -- the main Honduran exports -- is stagnant. In general, agriculture, which provides for almost 70 percent of Honduras' total production, has been decreasing and is currently at the lowest levels in history. This situation has led to a substantial increase in the country's foreign debt, which at the end of 1983 amounted to more than \$1.5 billion.

While the country is immersed in an economic crisis, it is becoming an important bastion for the most reactionary forces in Central America. The Honduran regime is currently the main ally of U.S. imperialism in the region. Nevertheless, the presence of U.S. troops and the training of foreign soldiers, essentially Salvadorans, in Honduras are producing serious discord in the country's political circles.

Jorge Arturo Reina, a leader of the ruling Liberal Party, said recently that there are four armies in Honduras: the national Army, the U.S. Army, the Salvadoran Army, and the one made up of the thousands of counterrevolutionaries of so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force. At a public rally in Camayagua, where the command of the Big Pine II exercises is headquartered, Reina demanded the immediate departure of all foreign troops. Reina, a former director of the Honduran University and leader of the Reinista Liberal Movement [Movimiento Liberal Reinista], warned that the Salvadoran regime has pretensions to Honduran territory even though its soldiers are being trained there. Reina said that those same soldiers will later march on Honduras. He said there are no guarantees that those soldiers will not attack his country in the future if they one day defeat the FMLN guerrilla forces.

An old border dispute that led to a war between the two countries in July 1969 re-emerged after the new Salvadoran Constitution was issued in December. The Constitution declares that Salvadoran territory is irreducible. This has led to great concern in Honduras, where some sectors believe that if the border dispute goes to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, El Salvador will obtain more than 400 square km of territory that Honduras considers its own. According to Camilo Gomez, a former member of the Honduran Border Commission, that territory includes La Paz Department, where Honduran President Roberto Suazo's home is located, and Meanguera Island, in the Gulf of Fonseca, whose waters are shared by the two countries and Nicaragua. Gomez said that the Suazo regime's decision to permit Salvadoran troops to train in Honduran territory is shameful.

Since June 1983 the so-called regional military training center has been operating in Puerto Castilla, on the Honduran Atlantic coast. More than 100 U.S. Green Berets have so far trained three Salvadoran battalions as part of the military assistance the United States gives to El Salvador. Thousands of U.S. troops have been in Honduran territory since early last year under the cover of the "Big Pine" maneuvers, whose second edition is about to end to be followed by similar exercises for a third time.

#### CRITICISM OF U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP SUMMARIZED

FL231430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Former Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber has noted that the path of peace in Central America must be through negotiations and not through a U.S. military buildup. He also described as alarming the points raised by the Kissinger commission report which recommends an increase in military aid to Honduras and El Salvador and the continuation of the aggression against Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, the Panamanian newspaper MATUTINO referred to this problem and noted that the U.S. Southern Command is building a new army in El Salvador and is creating a base in Honduras such as Guantanamo base, illegally established in Cuba. The newspaper added that this installation will serve to mobilize troops in the event of an emergency in El Salvador or Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, the FMLN and FDR noted that the Kissinger commission report's recommendation to further increase the military buildup in the area is false and groundless and is aimed at defending Washington's interests and increasing the crisis in Central America.

#### LABOR ORGANIZATION PRAISES CONTADORA EFFORT

PA231641 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Weekly feature on the Nonaligned Movement]

[Excerpt] The sympathy that the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers [ORIT] feels for the Contadora Group's efforts was made evident this week, when the assistant secretary of that labor organization asserted in Mexico City that the Contadora Group is a wall erected to prevent a war in Central America. The ORIT official stressed the efforts that the foreign ministers of Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela have made to prevent warlike actions and avoid a generalization of the Central American conflict.

In addition, the ORIT official announced that a symposium will be held 5-7 February in Panama, at which labor and Contadora Group representatives will participate to review the Contadora Group's work.

#### COSTA RICAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN POSTPONED

PA220327 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Curtin Winsor, the U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica, admitted having a bad day on learning that the plan to send U.S. military personnel to Costa Rica had been postponed. Winsor was referring to a plan submitted last November by Fred C. Ikle, under secretary of defense for policy, to Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge for alleged development works in northern Costa Rica with the participation of U.S. military personnel.

According to Ambassador Winsor, the project was temporarily suspended for fear the presence of U.S. military personnel in the Costa Rican zone bordering Nicaragua could be misinterpreted and also because of the reaction of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly, which had already expressed its disapproval.

### Plan Unleashes Debate

PA220444 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Carlos Jose Gutierrez, the Costa Rican foreign minister, has said in San Jose, Costa Rica, that U.S. plans to station 1,000 U.S. military engineers in this country will not be definitely suspended and could be carried out if the military personnel are not stationed along the border with Nicaragua.

The Costa Rican newspaper EL DEBATE has said that the Costa Rican Government's opposition to the U.S. Government's plans to station these military personnel near the border with Nicaragua has unleashed a violent debate between the government and Costa Rican rightist sectors.

According to EL DEBATE, U.S. military chiefs coordinated this plan, which would receive logistical support from Panama, following President Reagan's instructions. The paper says that the presence of these U.S. military personnel is a provocation by the Pentagon against the Sandinist revolution.

### COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS SAID SUPPORTING CONTRAS

PA230431 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR has reported that high-level Costa Rican police members are systematically collaborating with Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary members operating from Costa Rican territory. According to reports sent by the newspaper's correspondent, who toured the Costa Rican region bordering Nicaragua, the Costa Rican Rural Guard is carrying out a policy of complete support of the counterrevolutionary groups led by Eden Pastora, a practice which is far removed from the principles of neutrality proclaimed by President Luis Alberto Monge's government.

Three officers in Costa Rica's Rural Guard are the main accomplices giving support to Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups operating from Costa Rica: Captain (Fernando Villalobos), Rural Guard departmental delegate in San Carlos; Lieutenant (Luis Alfaro), district delegate in San Carlos; and Colonel (Gilberto Orozco), regional director of the corps in the zone of (Buetar Norte).

### REPORTS ON FMLN ADVANCES, ACTIONS IN EL SALVADOR

#### FMLN Areas Extended

PA202011 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] The FMLN forces have extended the areas under their control in Chalatenango Department to include (El Descanco), (Andamiyo), the (Contamas) hills, and the Monte Redondo canton, where the Army forces abandoned their positions. In its report on this, Radio Farabundo Marti stressed that the fact that the regime's defensive system at the Cerron Grande Dam, the most important in El Salvador, located in Chalatenango Department, has been dismantled reveals the Salvadoran Army's low morale.

At the same time, Salvadoran military authorities have admitted that the Army's advance has been effectively checked by the guerrilla forces. The Army has therefore urgently requested that the U.S. Government send more helicopters, a vital element in the counterinsurgency struggle in El Salvador.

Colonel Gustavo Martinez, chief of the Salvadoran military mission at the Inter-American Defense Board, said in Washington that the Army can only attempt to recover the initiative on the battlefield if the United States increases its military aid to El Salvador. He also referred to government measures presumably intended to eliminate the death squads. However, contradictory reports continue to arrive from San Salvador about the release of Captain Eduardo Alfonso Avila, who was recently arrested for his participation in the murder of two U.S. citizens in January 1981, and in other criminal actions perpetrated by the extreme rightist gangs.

#### No Confirmation of Rebel Deaths

FL201513 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign correspondents who went to Santa Rita, Chalatenango, to confirm reports issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee on the alleged death of 100 rebels in the fighting, stated upon their return that they did not find any traces of these bodies.

Colonel Luis Alonso Landaverde, commander of the 4th Brigade with headquarters in El Paraíso, said that the dead rebels had been with hundreds of guerrillas who had attacked Chalatenango on Sunday and clashed with his troops.

When they learned of this report, a caravan of foreign correspondents went to the area this week to interview peasants about the incident and to take a firsthand look at the place where the guerrillas had been buried. However, they were unable to confirm anything, the correspondents said when they returned.

According to AFP, Lieutenant Carlos Eliseo Rodriguez, an officer of the Salvadoran Army who has been in guerrilla hands for almost 2 months, recently said that he advocates a dialogue as a solution to the country's conflict. In an interview carried by Radio Venceremos, the official FMLN voice, and reported by AFP, the officer said that the Salvadoran war has reached such an extreme level of escalation that the situation calls for a decision other than a military one. We must reach an understanding between ourselves because we all know that Salvadorans do not want war, he stressed, adding that those who want war are not Salvadoran.

#### FMLN Barricades Highways

FL201608 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] FMLN forces carried out several attacks and set up barricades on several highways in El Salvador. The rebels attacked the police post recently established at the turnoff to El Limón, 4 km from the city of Chalatenango, according to military sources who gave no further details.

These same military sources also mentioned a clash between rebels and a military patrol in the northern part of San Vicente Department but avoided all reference to casualties. In this same area, FMLN sappers destroyed a high-tension tower, leaving Tecoluca without electric power.

Guerrilla groups set up barricades on the northern highway at (Las Garzitas) and Potrero Grande, located less than 50 km from the capital of El Salvador. Another group is in control of another section of road located near Suchitoto.

## Army Starts Usulután Operation

PA221804 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has announced the start of a so-called welfare operation in Usulután Department, in which what is described as a peace force will ensure the reconstruction of areas affected by terrorism.

This operation is part of the so-called CONARA Plan, which is identical to the strategic [words indistinct] implemented by the North Americans in Vietnam, although the Salvadoran Army claims that its objective is to restore moral, ethical, religious, and cultural values in the area the operation is to cover.

Usulután Department, an eastern El Salvador region that produces a substantial amount of coffee, is one of the FMLN's main bastions.

Colonel John (Wastletime), former head of the U.S. advisers in El Salvador, recently stated that over 30,000 Salvadoran troops are being rapidly deployed to guard vital economic and communications centers.

Meanwhile, foreign newsmen in San Salvador have reported that the Salvadoran government has placed new restrictions on their work, stressing that these restrictions show the absence of press freedom in El Salvador.

## FMLN Warns of U.S. Invasion

PA221954 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The FMLN has warned that the United States might take advantage of the U.S.-Honduran maneuvers known as the "Big Pine" exercises to invade El Salvador and check the guerrilla forces' advance.

In a message addressed to the U.S. people, the Salvadoran revolutionary organization reiterates its willingness to negotiate a peaceful solution to the Salvadoran conflict, but it also warns that if the country is invaded, many of the aggressors will die and the United States will bury itself in shame.

The document stresses that the third phase of the military maneuvers that the Honduran-U.S. troops are staging in Honduras will take place in February rather than in June, as was originally scheduled. The maneuver calls for U.S. troops to disembark near Morazan, one of the Salvadoran guerrilla forces' major operational sites.

The message proposes that a broadly representative government be created, that the Army be cleaned up, that the police corps be disbanded, and that the socioeconomic transformation of El Salvador be launched.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran Army has announced that it has begun another counterinsurgency operation in Usulután Department. It also announced a new regulation that further restricts the work of foreign correspondents in that Central American country.

For his part, (Pablo Molina), commander of the guerrilla front in Guazapa, has said that the Salvadoran guerrilla forces are winning the war because they have the support of the people, who are giving the struggle everything they have, even their anger. (Molina) said this at the central event held here in Havana to mark the end of the solidarity drive with El Salvador, which lasted throughout the country from 15 to 20 January.

He reviewed the victorious actions undertaken by the guerrillas, which, last year alone, inflicted over 7,000 casualties on the enemy; imprisoned 1,768 troops, including several high-ranking officers; and recovered 3,690 weapons. The guerrillas currently control over 60 of the country's municipalities. All of this, he stressed, is further demoralizing the U.S.-supported Army.

The guerrilla leader also explained the electoral maneuvers organized by Washington, which are slated for March. The candidates are the same assassins and torturers that are employed by the regime. He stressed that the guerrilla front does not plan to acknowledge the legitimacy of the constituent assembly elected in March 1984, and that it will continue its political and military struggle before, during, and after that process, to strengthen the people's power and to fight against genocide and poverty and for independence.

#### Guerrillas Occupy Town

PA220353 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Some 250 Salvadoran guerrillas occupied the town of San Rafael Cedros, Cuscatlan Department, after seizing the local garrison, an action which left several dead and wounded. Radio Venceremos reported that the rebels destroyed the [word indistinct] energy substation, leaving large sectors of El Salvador's eastern zone without electricity.

The same station also reported that another rebel squad attacked the town of Santo Domingo, San Vicente Department, killing at least two soldiers and wounding several others.

#### Electrical Facilities Sabotaged

PA221958 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Salvadoran guerrilla groups sabotaged many electrical installations in the last few hours in the Departments of Cuscatlan, San Vicente, Morazan, San Miguel, Usulután, and La Unión.

The Salvadoran rebels made an incursion into the locality of San Rafael Cedros in Cuscatlan and attacked the guards protecting the (Atachin) Bridge on the Pan American Highway, inflicting six casualties on the government's forces.

FMLN forces also attacked Army positions in Santiago de Maria, in Usulután Department, where they inflicted many casualties on the enemy, while in San Juan Opico, in La Libertad Department, the Salvadoran rebels ambushed a military patrol. Two soldiers were killed and two were injured in the ensuing clash.

#### FPL Leader on Rebel Gains

PA231308 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Commander Salvador Samayoa, leader of the Farabundo Martí People's Liberation Forces, FPL, in El Salvador, has asserted that a third of the territory in his country is totally controlled by the FMLN. The leader of the FPL, one of the organizations that comprise the FMLN, stressed there exists a people's government in the regions where guerrilla control prevails. It organizes trade, production, education, political-military training, and the entire economic, political, and social life of the people.

Samoyoa added that the guerrillas are organized on three levels: a regular rebel army with units that move and operate in 80 percent of the Salvadoran national territory; local guerrillas, who carry out actions in their respective regions; and the militias, which defend settlements and families. Salvador Samoyoa's statement was made to the news media in Mexico City.

#### Guerrilla Operation in Usulután

PA231748 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Five soldiers of the Salvadoran Army were killed and 19 wounded in a guerrilla operation in Usulután Department, according to reports by Western news agencies. The same sources said that during the operation several government planes bombed peasant communities near the Jucuarán urban center.

The reports also revealed that rebel forces set fire to an important coffee processing plant in San Miguel Department, costing the government losses of approximately \$4 million.

Meanwhile, referring to the Kissinger report on Central America, Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, the auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, in his Sunday sermon warned that to extend the Salvadoran conflict would only cause more death and sorrow to the people. The prelate voiced his support for a negotiated solution and expressed concern over the methods used by the Army to recruit new soldiers and for the agony of the relatives of missing persons.

#### Peace Group Praises FMLN

PA202104 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The successful results of recent Salvadoran guerrilla actions were praised in a message issued by the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples, on the 52d anniversary of the popular movement in El Salvador.

The document notes the growing political and military intervention by the United States and other regimes in that country, in contrast to the efforts of the FMLN-FDR to arrive at a peaceful solution of the conflict. The Cuban international organization reiterated its solidarity with the Salvadoran people and condemned the Salvadoran Government's maneuvers and the U.S. support it receives.

#### GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES IN GUATEMALA CITED

FL201440 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[All figures as heard]

[Text] Guatemalan reports have disclosed that insurgent forces in that country inflicted a total of 1,713 casualties, including the dead and wounded, on the Army in 577 actions carried out in 1983.

According to this report, the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization inflicted 990 casualties on the government forces; the Poor People's Guerrilla Army inflicted 337; and the Rebel Armed Forces inflicted 183. Meanwhile, the Guatemalan Labor Party inflicted an undetermined number of casualties.

## ORPA Attacks Police Stations

FL201752 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] According to ENFOPRENSA, several armed clashes between government troops and guerrillas which occurred in Guatemala City resulted in several soldiers wounded.

The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, ORPA, a member of the URNG, reported that it inflicted 15 casualties on government forces during several attacks on police stations in the capital.

An ORPA communique stated that the towns of (Sikapapa), San Miguel, Ixtahvacan, Tejutla, and Concepcion Tutuapa, and the village of [words indistinct] in the western Department of San Marcos had been occupied. It explained that during the occupation [words indistinct], propaganda materials were distributed and revolutionary slogans were painted.

## Guerrilla Actions Near Capital

PA220310 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Army troops and guerrilla forces have clashed in zones near the Guatemalan capital. Several soldiers were wounded in these clashes, but the rebels suffered no casualties, the news agency ENFOPRENSA reported.

The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, ORPA, reported that it had inflicted 15 casualties on the enemy in attacks on police stations in Guatemala City last Monday.

The Poor People's Army, EGP, like ORPA a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, UNRG, also reported that in December and in the first 15 days of January it inflicted casualties on the Army in Quiche Department.

## 6-20 Jan Actions Cited

FL232310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] During the period of 6-20 January, Guatemalan guerrilla forces inflicted 33 casualties on the Guatemalan Army. A spokesman for the Poor People's Guerrilla Army stated that on 6 January, this organization's forces staged an ambush for the government troops in El Quiche Department, killing six soldiers and wounding one.

A similar action took place on 13 January in the village of Monaco, located in northern Huehuetenango Department, where members of the Ernesto Guevara Front killed 17 soldiers and wounded 9.

A unit of the Lucio Ramirez Front of the Rebel Armed Forces of Guatemala took a stretch of highway in Peten Department last week. The action was part of the military campaign titled "21 Years of Combat Presence in the Struggle for National Independence."

GUATEMALAN FORCES STAGE RAIDS INTO MEXICO

PA222111 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The newspaper UNOMASUNO, which is published in Mexico City, reported that on 7 and 10 January Guatemalan Air Force helicopters bombed two Mexican towns on the Guatemalan border.

According to reports quoted by the daily newspaper, there were airspace violations by Guatemalan aircraft, almost every day in December; on some occasions Guatemalan soldiers even staged border raids into Mexican territory.

UNOMASUNO stresses that Guatemalan Army troops attacked Guatemalan refugee camps near the Mexican border at Chiapas. The Mexican Government, in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, recently decided to move some of the Guatemalan refugee camps further into Mexican territory to prevent attacks by the Guatemalan Army.

HONDURAN OFFICIALS ON JOINT U.S. MILITARY BASE

PA221237 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Official statements released in Tegucigalpa have hinted that the United States and Honduras are planning to establish a joint military base in Honduras, where Honduran and U.S. troops have been conducting the Big Pine maneuvers since early 1983.

General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, admitted that a Honduran-U.S. military base might be built, while Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said that he had received some information to that effect. Honduran Navy chief General Humberto Montoya also made reference to the possibility when he said that negotiations are underway with the United States on the establishment of a military base on the Atlantic coast, with U.S. financing and advice.

While the official Honduran statements are confined to possibilities, General Paul Gorman, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, treated the establishment of the base of Honduras as a fact in a report he submitted to the U.S. Congress in November 1983.

In reality, Honduras has been a virtual U.S. military base, set in the heart of Central America, since 1983.

RELEASE DEMANDED OF PERSONS DETAINED IN HONDURAS

PA202001 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Central American Association of Relatives of Detained and Missing Persons [Asociacion Centroamericana de Familiares de Detenidos y Desaparecidos] has again demanded the release of at least 95 people who were detained in Honduras and whose whereabouts are still unknown.

The humanitarian organization recalled that 45 of these people are Hondurans, while the rest are from Ecuador, Venezuela, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.

The organization said that what happens in Honduras accurately reflects developments in El Salvador and Guatemala, where paramilitary bands detain people and later deny having done so.

The organization added that the word "missing" carries a sad and grievous connotation for hundreds of families in Latin America. The military dictatorships and the national security doctrine sponsored by President Ronald Reagan's government are responsible for this situation, it concluded.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA INTERVIEWED BY SOVIET TV

FL211736 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] In a television interview given to Central Television of the USSR, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, denounced the continued counterrevolutionary attacks on Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan leader stated that the actions of the reactionary forces had once again encountered the determined resistance of the people, who are defending the interests of the revolution.

Daniel Ortega referred to the repeated counterrevolutionary attacks against his country [words indistinct] under the guidance of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Regarding the U.S. attack against Grenada, the leader stated that this piratical action confirmed that the U.S. Government has not renounced its plans to intervene in Nicaragua.

In the interview broadcast by Soviet television, the government coordinator stated that his country supports the position of the Contadora Group, directed towards stabilizing the Central American situation. The Nicaraguan leader also stated that his country has promoted a series of concrete initiatives and proposals for the purpose of supporting the normalization plan of the Contadora Group. He also pointed out the contradiction that exists between demagogic U.S. support of the Contadora Group's proposals and U.S. participation in military actions in the Central American region. Finally, Daniel Ortega stressed the fact that the Reagan administration's basic policy toward Nicaragua is that of armed intervention.

#### NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY

PA231930 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has said that if the U.S. policy on El Salvador should fail, President Ronald Reagan would order the invasion of that small Central American country, and warned that a U.S. military action in Central America would trigger a widespread conflagration in the area.

In an interview published by the Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR, D'Escoto pointed out that a generalized conflict in Central America would be a very serious menace to international peace and security, for which reason the situation in El Salvador is of great concern not only to the nations of the area, but to the entire world.

D'Escoto added that the greatest threat in Central America comes from the U.S. refusal to recognize the right of the nations of the area to seek their own solutions to their problems and to build their own destinies as they see fit. D'Escoto noted that the Contadora Group is the best means to establish at least a harmonious modus vivendi independently of the will of the United States. He concluded that it also belies Washington's claims that the nations of the area are irreconcilable.

#### Foreign Ministry on U.S. Actions

PA271936 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has expressed its deep concern over warmongering U.S. plans to provoke the Sandinist government and to hinder the Contadora Group's peace efforts. The Foreign Ministry states this in a communique, which also charges that the United States plans to build a military base in Puerto Castilla, Honduras. According to the communique, the construction of this base has been announced at a time when Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama are intensifying their efforts to find just and negotiated solutions to the grave Central American crisis.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry further explains that these aggressive and militaristic plans by the United States must be added to the intense military infrastructure that the Pentagon has provided to the Honduran Government.

According to the ministry, logistical and military support from the United States for Honduras has (led) to joint military maneuvers of indefinite duration, the remodeling of airports for military purposes, technical and financial aid for troops, the installation of training schools, and the presence of U.S. military advisers. The communique stresses that this support has also led to increased participation by both the Honduran Army and the U.S. Armed Forces in aggressive acts against Nicaragua.

#### NICARAGUA REQUESTS VISIT TO CAMPS IN HONDURAS

FI231240 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Nicaragua has requested permission from Honduras to have a Nicaraguan delegation visit Miskito refugee camps to explain to refugees the amnesty decreed by the Nicaraguan Government.

In announcing this, Edwin Zablah, the Nicaraguan ambassador to Tegucigalpa, commented that the amnesty gives the Miskitos the opportunity to return to Nicaragua without running any risks and enables them to participate in the electoral process to be carried out in Nicaragua. He also said that according to the most recent Contadora Group accords, he trusts that the Honduran Government will fully cooperate to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of Nicaraguans.

Zablah noted that the delegation to visit Honduras will be made up of clergymen and people from the Atlantic coast, where the Miskitos are from.

#### BISHOP SCHLAEFFER RETURNS TO NICARAGUA

PA220351 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Bluefields Bishop Salvador Schlaeffer has returned to Nicaragua 30 days after having left the country with the abducted Francia Sirpe Miskito villagers. The U.S. prelate arrived in Honduras after a 4-day march and was immediately taken to Tegucigalpa, where he told the press he had accompanied the abducted Miskitos voluntarily.

His statements contradict others made by some of the Indians who were able to escape during the forced march, and statements by two deacons who accompanied the bishop.

#### EUROPEANS TO JOIN NICARAGUAN LABOR CENTERS

PA202101 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Gerard Beau, who is the leader of the French Committee for Solidarity with Nicaragua, said in Paris that several thousand European volunteers will join the so-called international labor centers that are to be created in Nicaragua shortly, an expression of the solidarity of its members with the Sandinist revolution. Beau indicated that these centers will operate in areas bordering Honduras and Costa Rica and will serve to warn the U.S. Government that should U.S. forces intervene directly in Nicaraguan territory, they will find a great number of European civilians in those areas. Beau also recalled that several thousand brigadists from 14 European countries have been participating in building schools and in harvesting cotton crops for periods ranging from 1 to 6 months since 1982.

COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT REORGANIZES ARMED FORCES

PA220049 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur has reorganized the Armed Forces High Command and also approved the retirement of four of the highest-ranking military chiefs in the Armed Forces. The reorganization began on Wednesday, when Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes resigned and President Betancur appointed General Gustavo Matamoros Reyes to replace him. Matamoros was the Armed Forces General Staff chief.

The other generals seeking retirement later were General Bernardo Lema Henao, Army General Staff deputy commander; General Guillermo Jaramillo Berrios, Army commander; and General Angel Maria Gomez, Air Force commander. President Betancur appointed General Miguel Vega Uribe Armed Forces General Staff chief, to replace Matamoros; General Obdulio Forero Army commander, and Brigadier General Rafael Moreno Air Force commander. According to President Betancur these changes have not altered the normal functions of the government. They were carried out after President Betancur said at the National Security Council that the Armed Forces is not a deliberating force and should not meddle in politics. According to the news media, this was Betancur's reply to Gen Landazabal's statements questioning the government's policy regarding the guerrilla forces.

CP on Minister's Resignation

PA221241 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] In a communique issued in Bogota, the Communist Party of Colombia said that Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes' resignation is a victory for the country's popular forces. The Communist Party of Colombia says that now everything depends upon the people's struggle for a democratic opening and on President Belisario Betancur's compliance with that need. The Communist Party of Colombia is aware of the fact that Gustavo Matamoros, new defense minister, is no guarantee that the military clique will change its policy, which is to oppose the advance of democracy.

CHILEAN GOVERNMENT SEEKS EMBASSY REFUGEES

PA222212 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The Chilean fascist government has increased its vigilance around the Vatican Embassy in Santiago, where four persons requested political asylum because they were sought by Augusto Pinochet's regime. The Chilean generals' and admirals' corps have requested that the refugees be turned over to them as soon as possible, because they are accused of killing General Carol Urzua when he was intendant of Santiago de Chile. The contradictions noted in the official communiques issued by the Chilean military regime are surprising, because the same charges have been made against seven Chileans who have been under arrest since last September. In fact, a death sentence is being sought for these prisoners. The Chilean who are seeking asylum at the Vatican Embassy in Santiago are: Elva Duarte, Jaime Jovanovitch, Pamela del Carmen Cordero, and Jose Hector Aguilera.

Other reports from Santiago reveal that military police violently repressed hundreds of Christian Democratic youths who wanted to march through Paseo Ahumada in the downtown area after participating in a mass to honor former President Eduardo Frei on the second anniversary of his death. Two youths were wounded, and at least 10 were arrested by police.

CARICOM SECRETARIAT ANALYZES UNANIMITY RULE

FL232025 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 22 (CANA) -- The division in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) over the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada has led to calls for a restructuring of the Community, particularly as it relates to the unanimity rule which governs most of its decisions.

In its latest edition of the CARICOM PERSPECTIVE, the Georgetown-based Community Secretariat gives the following analysis of the principle of unanimity.

(By the Caricom Secretariat)

The framers of the Treaty of Chaguaramas, (which set up Caricom) out of an abundance of caution or wisdom, sought to have the principle of unanimity with respect to the decision-making process enshrined in the treaty.

The treaty provides that the (summit) conference, the Common Market Council, and the institutions shall make decisions and recommendations by the affirmative role of all its members.

It goes on to state that a recommendation shall have no binding force and that abstentions shall not be construed as impairing the validity of decisions or recommendations provided that not less than three-quarters of the members, including two of the MDC's, vote in favour of any decision or recommendation.

The principle, while it ensures the broadest possible agreement, has the effect of placing Community decision-making in a straight-jacket, since no decision is legal and binding unless it has the approval of all the member states of the Community, unless of course, a member state chooses to abstain. But abstentions, as the records show, have hardly ever been used in Community decision-making.

The treaty does, however, make provision for some decisions to be taken by majority vote, but this affects only a small and specific number of areas in the common market annex and does not significantly affect the application of the unanimity rule.

In these instances, majority vote is construed as requiring the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members states, including at least two MDC's.

In any case, actual voting is rarely practised and even in the above-mentioned areas, efforts are usually directed at obtaining the full agreement of all member states in a Community spirit.

The exercise of the unanimity rule, therefore, means that any state can paralyse Community action and programmes by simply entering a reservation in respect of a decision arrived at or by absenteeism; for before a decision becomes effective, the assent of the absent member state is required.

A reservation, therefore, unless withdrawn at some stage, has the effect of a veto.

This effective power of veto which each member state possesses has been widely used over the past ten years, but with both discretion and restraint; for the records show that reservations are, as a general rule, temporary in nature and only a few Community matters have been indefinitely held up because of this procedure.

The use of the reservation, nevertheless, by virtue of the unanimity rule, has contributed in some measure to the slow rate of implementation of Community decisions and projects.

The unanimity rule could also be seen as a safety valve a check and balance, which ensures that no polity is adopted or any action is taken which is contrary to the basic thinking of a member state or which puts that state in a disadvantageous position.

This is probably why abstentions have not been actively practised as a means of getting around the unanimity rule in favour of majority decision, since the onus is on the objecting state to choose between the stalling effect of a reservation or to permit a majority decision to go forward through abstention.

The Community has, therefore, scrupulously adhered to the principle of unanimity: It means that every member state can feel the weight of its influence and role within the Community as well as ensure that the more powerful and influential do not dominate Community affairs.

To give effect to the unanimity rule, decision-making in Caricom has had to proceed on the basis of compromise and accommodation, so as to arrive at a "consensus."

Indeed, the term "consensus" has become the touchstone of Community decision-making. Every view is accommodated, every concern taken into account. The result is that sometimes the decisions made are not the best.

For, in order to satisfy the concern or viewpoint of one, a programme may be modified or its emphasis shifted, all in the interest of arriving at a consensus.

The question to be asked is whether the unanimity rule in practice has been a constraint, to the extent that it would require modification.

Would it be advisable to sacrifice the present Community spirit which goes into decision-making in favour of a speedier system which removes the guarantees which the unanimity rule, by its very nature, provides?

A compromise position may be an extension of those areas providing for majority decision. Even in this case the majority is a qualified majority. This would satisfy those states which may feel that they are being deprived of benefits because of the application of the rule.

A majority decision would enable action to proceed in the particular area and those in favour to enjoy benefits, while consultation may continue with the dissenting member, with a view towards eventually finding a position to accommodate any concerns that state may have.

However, the difficulty here will be the determination of those areas to be covered by majority decision and securing the necessary unanimous agreement to put this into effect.

The unanimity rule is therefore a victim of its own being and, in any examination of its future role, it must be recognized that the thinking which governed the drafting of the treaty in 1973 may not coincide with present day trends and concepts.

BARBADOSADAMS SPEAKS ON CARICOM, OECS INITIATIVES

FL232022 Bridgetown CANA in English 1930 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 23 (CANA) -- The Caribbean Community (Caricom) is in trouble, Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams said yesterday, as he announced initiatives towards co-operation with the island's neighbours in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

Adams was speaking to the annual conference of his ruling Barbados Labour Party and reviewed relations in the Community, particularly following last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada.

A partial text of his speech related to the Caricom and the OECS is reproduced:

I have already on previous occasions and in different places thanked the people of Barbados for their tremendous expression of support for their government as well as for the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the governments of Jamaica and the United States of America (in intervening in Grenada).

The backing of the general public made all the risks tolerable and supported us in our conviction that we were doing not only what was necessary but, even more so, what was right and what was expected by those most affected, the suffering mass of our neighbours in Grenada.

Now that the dust has more or less settled in Grenada, where steps are underway to return the country to normal democratic political life and to economic and social stability, we can take stock of the full implications of the tragic events which took place in that island.

I think that, with the possible exception of one government, the countries that make up Caricom agree that the October events in Grenada constituted the gravest known threat to the survival of democracy in the region.

This is surely true even of our schismatic comrades in Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, and Belize. Whatever arguments preceded the steps which were taken to redress the situation, there is undoubted agreement that those steps have given us an opportunity for political reconstruction that is probably very unlikely to recur.

I say this because, since not all regional governments saw eye to eye and not all were willing to stand shoulder to shoulder over the means to rescue Grenada from further and even deeper tragedy, the spirit of regionalism underwent shocks which at first seemed to have shaken the foundation of the regional integration exercise.

And of course Caricom has not only been knocked from side to side by the political issues involved in the Grenada rescue and the suffounding wrangling. For much of 1982 and 1983 our attention was compelled by the many major problems posed by trade and other economic issues.

As things stand today, therefore, a great deal of work needs to be done by all the members of Caricom so as to get the regional ship fully back on course.

This party must refuse to surrender to any thoughts of despair and pessimism where the future of Caricom is concerned. We must view the current regional economic and other problems as nothing more than yet another challenge.

We cannot give up the efforts of the founder of our party to build a sense and a structure of West Indian nationhood.

First let me say that the events not only of last October, but of the past 12 months show that there is a community of interest in the Eastern Caribbean that is fully and completely recognised by the smaller members of Caricom who constitute the area.

Barbados, despite present differences of the level of development, is also a spiritual as well as a geographical part of the Eastern Caribbean.

History may well regard the destruction of the federal hopes of the "Little 8" in 1965 as being a greater betrayal of the federal ideal than the British Government's weak and foolish promotion of a referendum in Jamaica at a time when a temporary mood of disillusionment had overtaken that island.

Trinidad and Tobago are also part of the Eastern Caribbean, and in my view events now in progress will bring this into sharp perspective in the next 3 to 5 years.

In the meantime, Barbados and the OECS have a great opportunity now to mark our shared experiences by stating a commitment to closer unity and to pursuing such policies of closer association as are permitted by our different levels of economic development.

I will identify two areas, political in nature, where a measure of full regional unity can be achieved between us.

First, regional security. The existing regional security system, constituted by treaty between Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, triumphantly stood the test of organisation, decision, mobilisation and action between October 20th and October 25th last year.

Those who had doubts about the capacity of the political leadership of Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean states to act unanimously, swiftly, and decisively were confounded by the speed of our joint initiative and our follow-up in seeking the help of other Caribbean partners and friendly powers further away.

We have taken a decision in principle to expand the regional security system to include St Kitts-Nevis now that it is an independent country and to extend an invitation to Grenada, after it has an elected government.

Monteserrat is already de facto associated with us, and I have no doubt that a favourable response would be given to Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands, should they seek association.

We have also decided that an element of land forces should be included in the system, and a study is now underway to determine whether we can establish a full regional defence force, thus extending the protection available against mercenary adventure, other external aggression, domestic revolution, or other violent episodes.

My feeling is that one regional army rather than a number of national armies would give us an additional safe-guard, namely, the protection of small governments against their own armed forces.

I am convinced that one of the most long-lasting effects of the Grenada operation can be the full development of a total joint security system for our small islands.

The second area is that of the judiciary. Barbados was left without an independent court of appeal after the breakup of the West Indies Federation and the dissolution of the Federal Supreme Court, and 20 years later we still do not have one.

The system, which was intended to be transitional and temporary, by which a court of appeal is constituted by those judges of first instance who did not preside at the first trial, is still with us.

The Eastern Caribbean States, on the other hand, enjoy a unified judicial system from which Grenada's breakaway under Maurice Bishop is surely only temporary.

I think that the time is surely opportune for us to consider that the fashioning of a judicial structure, starting with an appeal system that can serve all our islands.

I have mentioned two specific areas of possible functional cooperation between Barbados and the states constituting the OECS.

These do not of course exhaust the possibilities at which the Government of Barbados is looking: Immigration policy and joint diplomatic representation also represent current points of interest, in addition to the many areas regularly discussed at Caricom meetings.

But more important than the specific issues is the general spirit now generated by our great enterprise and the knowledge of ourselves which it has given -- that we are still West Indians with common views who can mobilise a common purpose, even off the cricket field. And it is this spirit which we must bring to the process of saving our wider Caricom Association.

Caricom is in trouble. Let there be no doubt about it. It is not for one moment as seriously threatened by the disagreements over Grenada as it is by the disagreements over economics.

History has an uncanny way of repeating itself. In 1962, the federation was threatened, and destroyed, by Jamaica's perception that its own economic development was threatened by its continued membership in the federation.

Jamaica turned out to be sadly wrong, for while its economic decline in the 1970's cannot in any way be directly traced to its leaving the federation in 1962, its post-federation, inward-looking economic policies have now been characterised by many independent economists as lacking the export-orientation, which would have provided diversification for its economy and given it the strength to survive troubles in its key industries. Jamaica is also an outstanding example of the fact that balance-of-payments problems cannot be solved by import controls.

Now in 1983 and 1984, we are hearing the same ominous sounds from another quarter. I say that we must not let history repeat itself this time.

There is little doubt that the spirit of Caricom and sometimes the letter have been trodden on by many recent developments, not stemming from the conduct of one member only. This has given rise to much bickering and confusion.

In Trinidad, there is a complaint of being taken for a ride by Caricom. In Barbados, there is a powerful sense of being hard done by -- we are owed 60 million dollars (U.S.), our goods cannot get licences, and so on.

Foreign ministers quite unprecedentedly state that prime ministers of other countries have not told the truth on a matter of the most grave international importance. Prime ministers perhaps accurately, then equally unprecedentedly, feel themselves constrained to call ambassadors liars.

I think we have gone far enough: We really must not let history repeat itself. Nothing must stand in the way of our second attempt at West Indian national development and unity. We must consciously draw back from the brink and make a serious effort to restore the harmony so evident just a few short years ago.

The process is of course a two-way street. There must be agreement on whether the basic structure of Caricom is sound, and if not to change it openly, not subvert it in a welter of bad feeling.

But we must come together again in that full and complete spirit of cooperation and friendship that gave the greatest promise that we have seen since the institution of Caricom for our speedy progress towards that dream of Caribbean unity from which we have, alas, so often awakened in despair.

#### GRENADA

#### GAIRY ON GULP, LABOR UNIONS, FUTURE PLANS

FL232010 Bridgetown CANA in English 2303 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 22 (CANA) -- Former Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy, who returned home from exile yesterday, says he expects to work in the trade union movement.

Sir Eric said, in an interview published today by the SUNDAY SUN newspaper: "I have been away so long I just want to put some life back into my (Grenada United Labour) party and to put some life back into the trade union business.

"I would not say that I am going to put all my energies into the trade union movement. I couldn't say what portion of my time I would devote to the manual and mental workers union which I founded."

Sir Eric again said he will not take part in elections in Grenada later this year and would not speak on political platforms. But he stressed this did not mean he was giving up active politics.

Sir Eric's return to Grenada was paved by the U.S.-led invasion of the island last October which removed a short-lived military government that had ousted and killed his successor in office, Maurice Bishop. Bishop's New Jewel Movement overthrew Sir Eric in March 1979 and the former prime minister lived in the U.S. until his homecoming yesterday.

You know, all during the years of the Maurice Bishop madness, people kept saying to me that I should give up any thought of returning but I kept the faith.

Q: Have you heard from Sir Paul Scoon since you sent him the cable informing him of your decision not to contest the next election?

A: No, but I sent him the cable and he knows what my position is. He refused to come to the telephone when I called him at least six times. On the last occasion, the person who answered the phone asked me to hold on and then came back and said: "I am sorry, sir, he's not available." I told the person, let the governor-general know that Sir Eric Gairy, the last elected prime minister of Grenada, called.

Q: We have been told that some people plan to institute private proceedings against you in the courts of law in Grenada once you return. Are you concerned?

A: Concerned? Why should I be? I have done nothing wrong. I have broken no laws. I am not afraid of anything or anybody.

Q: You said sometime ago that you were in touch with government representatives from a number of countries. Who were you in touch with? Did you inform the State Department that you were going back to Grenada?

A: No, I did not inform the State Department. I did receive a letter from Buckingham Palace and another from Number Ten Downing Street. It should not be forgotten that I am a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

Q: Were you asking the Queen and the British Government to ensure your safe return?

A: (Laughter) No. I can't tell you what the communications was about. You Bajans bowl some good balls. I have to be careful here.

Q: Did you receive a response from the Barbados Government when your lawyer requested permission for you to spend a few days in Barbados before returning to St. George's?

A: Not officially, no. I think they passed the word unofficially that the answer would be no. But that is alright. Again anything can happen and I am prepared for it. You know, they embarrassed me in Barbados. What they did to me in Barbados was embarrassing, forcing me to change my clothes in front of strangers. It was so unnecessary.

Q: You have decided not to run in the next elections. What are you going to be doing in Grenada?

A: I have been away so long that I just want to get back to my party (Grenada United Labour Party) for the time being and to put some life back into the trade union business. I want to set up my office, study, plan, and present my party a winning card. Let me explain. I present the card of candidates for the election to the party. The card is then studied by the executive and they (executive members) can reject, put new people in, or throw out those I put up. Then the whole thing goes to the general council. There, it is debated and discussed and then the candidates are selected.

Q: Who is going to lead the GULP in the next election?

A: I am not saying that I have let go of the leadership of the Grenada United Labour Party. But we are going to select a political leader after some time. I have several people in mind, they are some good people who can lead the party in an election. But don't forget we still have some time. Not even the date has been announced yet. Let me see what happens.

Q: Were you pressured into dropping out of the election?

A: Nobody pushes me. I thrived and I lived on pressure from day one. Look, the same small island leaders some of them who have died, who were ministers in the federal government, labelled my government a squandermania government, dissolved it under colonial rule and they investigated how I supposedly squandered money. They sent the biggest brains, legal and financial, to investigate. They called me to give evidence in defence of myself and I never went.

When they were finished they couldn't find a damn cent missing. They spent a lot of money investigating and they couldn't find anything. Had they found a cent missing, they would have given me ten or 20 criminal cases around that one cent. So what did they come up with? I bought a baby grand piano for my home. In other words, the government spent money for a piece of furniture for the chief minister's home.

When I am asked the question all over the world, why did I buy that piano, my only answer was and still is, because there wasn't a better one on the island to buy. I bought that up because I am accustomed to the pressures. You don't know what I have been through, man.

Q: Looking back, how do you evaluate yourself?

A: Grenada has done extremely well under my leadership. Everything that was magnificent happened to me and to Grenada during my leadership. I could mention 30 or 40 things in which Grenada outperformed the other islands. That's one of the things why Ms Eugenia Charles (Dominica's prime minister) is so much against me. She is a lawyer. Milton Cato (St Vincent's prime minister) is a lawyer and John (Compton of St Lucia) is a lawyer but Gairy...what about his education? He is not a lawyer, what is he? And on top of that he is doing so damn well, a man with 31 different major honours, five knighthoods, and a member of the Privy Council.

When they wanted a judge for Miss World they called Eric Gairy and the book that was written by (prof) Archie Singham was Eric Gairy's profile. So many things have happened which left the small islands behind. Grenada received its independence nine years in front of some of those islands. So Grenada has done extremely well, better than anyone of the others, in spite of the fact that we didn't have an international airport while Antigua and St Lucia had one.

Q: If given the opportunity what would you do in a different way?

A: I would set up a public relations department. It would be sufficiently strong to dissipate all the myths about the Mongoose gang, corruption, and all of that focus on UFO's (unidentified flying objects) and so on. I would also choose the candidates for the GULP more carefully. All of the intellectuals were not loyal.

Q: What mistakes did you make when you were PM?

A: One mistake I made was that I should have been more alert and should have dealt with dissidents and subversive movements in a different way. I gave them too much latitude. I chuckle when I hear people say my government was too harsh.

Q: Why do you chuckle? After all you were accused of organising the Mongoose gang which went around beating up your opponents?

A: That statement about being too harsh came from Edward Seaga, (prime minister of Jamaica). I don't know how he could have said that because he has not been in Grenada for 30 years. Neither did I see Ms Eugenia Charles. The majority of the people in Grenada, not those who write, not Alistair Hughes, believe that I was too soft. They believe that I was too much in God. The next mistake I made was in selecting ministers to serve in my government. I would be more careful in choosing ministers. In some cases they would have to have more international knowledge.

Another was being with the people. One can be with the people, playing cricket, and tennis, and going dancing with them and so on. But I would cut that down a bit now.

Q: You said earlier that you did well as prime minister. Why then are you throwing in the towel?

A: I am not throwing in the towel. (Senator) Edward Kennedy isn't running (for the presidential nomination) of the Democratic Party (of the United States) and he is the strongest candidate. Once Dr (Eric) Williams said he was not running but he came back and ran.

Q: Are you saying then that you would change your mind and run once again as Mr Williams did?

A: When he was asked the same question, he said "no, I am not running." I am a different person from Mr Williams, even in the old days, the old planter class would tell you that what Gairy agreed to in meetings representing the workers he wouldn't have to put his signature to a piece of paper. His word is as good as his signature. If they try to draft me to run in the next election once I get to Grenada, I still will not run. I will not be participating in the next election.

Q: Why are you asking the Grenada authorities to give you back pay?

A: Remember, I am not asking for the money for myself alone. Some of us were not earning any money but we had to borrow to live on. The salary of the prime minister was around EC 2,800 per month and it was about 28 months between the coup and the constitutional end of my last government. So, I am asking for the money which would have been paid to me if the coup had not taken place. I am dealing with the principle of the thing. Some of us were unable to earn money immediately, others couldn't get a job at all.

I had to borrow money from people here in the United States to live on, people from whom I would not have borrowed if I were in Grenada.

Q: We have heard about the new Grenada. Is there going to be a new Eric Gairy once you return home?

A: My exile offered me a chance to reflect on all aspects of life in Grenada and upon myself. I am returning home a much better man with a new lifestyle, a greater respect for and appreciation of moral values, temperance and moderation in all things, a greater sense of balance. A greater sense of tolerance. Better appreciation for the views of others, and a broader and deeper love for my people.

Q: But you said a while ago that you gave dissidents too much latitude. Are you not contradicting yourself?

A: Not at all. I said I was too lenient, too soft with the communists, and the subversives. Don't forget the subversives overthrow my government by getting people here in the United States to send guns in barrels labelled as petroleum jelly. I am also saying that I have a greater love for my people.

#### JAMAICA

#### PNP REACTS TO PARLIAMENT STATEMENT ON STATUS

FL232100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1807 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 23 (CANA) -- The People's National Party (PNP) has told Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga that he would distort or ignore at his own peril the fact that even outside Parliament the party remained constitutional and legitimate. The PNP, which boycotted last month's general election, was reacting to a parliamentary statement last week that questions its status now that it has no parliamentary representation.

Prime Minister Seaga had said that the Jamaica Constitution did not recognise political parties, but the sole right of those elected to Parliament to form the government.

"This means," he said, "that the only opposition that can be recognised as having legal or constitutional status is the one that is elected in accordance with the Constitution."

He added: "Any other form of opposition is unconstitutional and illegal and we must not indulge the dangerous fantasies of those who want to ride the horse both ways -- leave the parliamentary system and operate from the base of a political party, which the Constitution doesn't recognise, but at the same time be afforded all the rights and privileges of an opposition elected within the parliamentary system."

However, former PNP Attorney General Carl Rattray in a statement said that political parties obtained their legitimacy and constitutionality from the right of the people to form themselves into associations and organisations.

He added: "The opposition outside Parliament is as legitimate and constitutional as any opposition inside Parliament, and Mr Seaga ignores or distorts this fact at his peril."

Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) controls all 60 seats in the Lower House, and eight government-appointed "independents" occupy the opposition benches in the nominated Senate, because of the PNP election boycott.

The PNP boycotted the election, claiming that by using a three-year-old voters' list, the government was disfranchising 150,000 people, and that the prime minister had reneged on a pledge in 1980 by both parties that no more general elections would be held before the implementation of reforms to eliminate illegal voting.

Rattray, chairman of the PNP's "People's Forum," said that the substance of democracy was more important than its form, and that the prime minister sought "to create the form for a democracy which he was wilfully deprived of substance."

The tenor of Seaga's statement, Rattray said, was offensive, because it attempted to have people believe that because the PNP refused to contest what it felt was not a true election "it has become an outlaw organisation."

The statement could set the stage for repressive police action which the PNP would not tolerate, he said.

Added Rattray: "The People's National Party will oppose vigorously, legally and constitutionally outside of Parliament until such time as democracy in substance is returned to the Jamaican people by the holding of elections in conformity with the provisions of Section 38 or the constitution (which outlines the elements of the electoral law)."

#### Glasspole Will Not Interfere

FL232146 Bridgetown CANA in English 2015 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 23 (CANA) -- Jamaica's governor-general, Sir Florizel Glasspole, has ruled out any role for himself in coaxing the island's political leaders into a compromise for an early restoration of a two-party Parliament here.

Glasspole, in a speech in the north coast town of Ocho Rios, said it was the People's National Party's (PNP) our decision to opt out of last month's general election, and that he could not interfere.

Prime Minister Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) controls all 60 seats in the House of Representatives because of the PNP's election boycott.

The governor-general's remark Sunday at a conference of the Jamaica Gasolene Retailers Association (JGRA) was in direct response to a letter to him by an attorney and minister in a previous Jamaica Labour (JLP) government, Wilton Hill, urging that he call in Prime Minister Edward Seaga and PNP leader Michael Manley "with a view to arriving at a consensus as to the reinstitution of the two-party system of government."

Hill's letter was published in the press late last month, and according to the governor-general, it reached him in January. Glasspole said that he had not replied assuming that Hill was merely seeking publicity.

The PNP stayed away from the December poll on the grounds that the government was disfranchising an estimated 15 percent of the potential electorate by using a three-year-old register and that it had reneged on an agreement that no general election would be called without the implementation of reforms to eliminate bogus voting.

Hill had argued that as head of state, it was the governor-general's role to seek to protect the two-party Parliament, through mediation.

But said Glasspole, who did not call Hill by name, replied: "I suggest with the greatest respect that he doesn't live in a world of reality...."

"There could have been no more bitter pill for me to swallow than when I saw a no-contest election taking place last December, but I could do nothing in the matter. "It was the decision of the opposition (not to contest the election). How can I interfere?"

Glasspole said that he wished to see the two-party system returned to Parliament, "but the fact is that the opposition opted out of the election and no one can do anything about it."

Opinion polls here have showed that a majority of Jamaicans want new elections when an upgraded voters list and electoral reform to eliminate fraud are completed this year. The polls say that the PNP would win such an election.

The PNP has attacked the legitimacy of the administration, and has dubbed the new Seaga team and the Parliament as "bogus". Graffitti all over Kingston declare: "Bogus Government."

However, High Court Judge Uriah Parnell, speaking at yesterday's function, noting that the framers of the Jamaica Constitution envisaged the possibility of a one-party Parliament, defended the legality of the government.

"Although Humpty Dumpty told Alice that it is possible to do anything with adjectives, it is impossible to have a bogus Parliament," he said.

Added Parnell: "So long as the procedural steps laid down by law from the dissolution of Parliament are followed, the resultant effect is recognised by law as valid, subject to any election petition that may follow."

He, however, questioned the one-working day prime minister had allowed between the dissolution of Parliament and the nomination day for election and said that there should be a convention that it should be no less than 10 days.

"It is my humble view that one working day is not sufficient for interested parties to put their house in order so that nomination papers and candidates are ready within 24 hours," the judge said.

#### TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

##### MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON CARICOM MEETING

FL232002 Bridgetown CANA in English 1703 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 23 (CANA) -- Trinidad and Tobago will push for discussion of alleged breaches of the rules of origin, particularly by the smaller Caribbean islands during the 24th meeting of Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) Council of Ministers meeting opening in Guyana on Wednesday, an Information Ministry statement said.

The four-member Trinidad and Tobago delegation will be led by Industry and Commerce Minister Desmond Cartey.

Government late last year announced a plan to send a team to visit manufacturers in Antigua and Barbuda and other Eastern Caribbean countries to investigate alleged breaches of the Caricom rules of origin for exports earmarked for duty-free treatment.

Local manufacturers have complained that some Caricom states were re-labelling third countries as "made in Caricom" to benefit from duty concessions.

The Information Ministry's statement said that among the 14 items on the agenda were: the Caricom regional payments support fund, agriculture, external relations, and legal and treaty matters, including a request from the Caribbean Public Service Association for Observer Status.

CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY REACTS TO DEVALUATION

FL201520 Bridgetown CANA in English 1510 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 20, CANA -- The Georgetown Chamber of Industry and Commerce (GCIC), umbrella organisation for the Guyana private sector, says last week's 20-percent devaluation of the local currency has dealt the business community a serious blow. "We are certainly not happy with the devaluation, as the increased rate which we will have to pay for importing goods will create a financial burden on the private sector," the Chamber said after a lengthy meeting yesterday.

The Chamber also said there has been no guarantee by the relevant Guyana authorities as to when payment of outstanding overseas debts would be made to suppliers, who have already displaced goods to Guyana based on orders received from local businessmen. "Since a guarantee of payment might not be immediate, importers as well as manufacturers would not be in a position to place orders overseas for goods and raw materials," the organization said.

The Central Bank has over 321 million dollars (one Guy dollar 21 cents U.S.) in arrears for the commercial community -- money placed with the institution to purchase foreign currency to meet importation costs. The value of the Guyana currency has been lowered from 3.00 dollars (G) to 3.75 dollars (G) to the U.S. dollar.

Opposition Attacks

FL231905 Bridgetown CANA in English 2129 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 22, CANA -- The small left-wing opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA) has hit out at the devaluation of the Guyana dollar, saying it would result in price rises. The WPA said the government was forced into the devaluation because confidence in the country's currency had been lost. Guyana adjusted its dollar 13 days ago to 3.75 Guy dollars to U.S. dollar from three Guyana dollars. The WPA said the government also had in mind an anticipated rise in export earnings from Guyana's key sectors, sugar and bauxite, following the devaluation.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SALE OF LUMBER TO CHINA

FL201403 Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] China is purchasing another \$2 million worth of lumber from Guyana. According to the Guyana Forestry Commission, the Chinese buyers will be sending a vessel early next month to collect the consignment. Arrangements for the sale of lumber to China were made last year but shipments [words indistinct] were unable to obtain a suitable vessel.

SURALCO ASKS THROUGH PRESS FOR WORK RESUMPTION

FL231400 Bridgetown CANA in English 2050 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 21 (CANA) -- American-owned Suriname Aluminium Company (Suralco) appealed today to bauxite workers to return to work on Monday after a crippling five-week-old strike.

Suralco made its appeal in a newspaper advertisement. It follows the agreement reached Thursday between Suralco management and bauxite unions to allow a resumption of work.

The bauxite employees took the industrial action last December 19 to protest against tax increases later cancelled by the government. The strikes spread into a wider move to force the military rulers from power, with bank and bus workers joining in.

So far only the 3,000 workers at Suralco's main plant at Paranam, 40 miles from Paramaribo, had accepted the pact. The 800 workers at the Moengo plant, 100 miles from here, have rejected the offer. Bauxite provides 80 percent of Suriname's foreign exchange earnings.

Meanwhile, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY said today quick action by guards and government workers at a key government building foiled an attempt by alleged arsonists to set it on fire. The agency said police reported that early yesterday morning, smoke was seen coming from the ground floor of the six-story structure, but alert workers helped to put the fire out. It said that the building, housing many government departments, including finance and planning, sustained 10,000 guilders (one U.S. dollar; 55 Suriname guilders) in damage. No arrests were made, the news agency said.

Some Workers Return

FL231831 Bridgetown CANA in English 1730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 23 (CANA) -- The American-owned Suriname Aluminium Company (Suralco) plant at Paranam, 40 miles from here, resumed operations last night after they were suspended five weeks ago following a workers' strike, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY [SNA] reported today.

The news agency quoted a spokesman for the company as saying that although workers had turned out in various departments, he could not ascertain up to noon local time, what percentage of the 3,000 employees were on the job. At the Moengo plant, 100 miles from here, the 800 workers, who had rejected a settlement of grievances related to pay that Paranam had accepted last week, were still off the job.

The Suralco spokesman said a workers' committee is expected to meet with officials of Moengo Mine Workers' Union later today to resolve the issue.

The agency said that reports indicated that 30 percent of the workforce at the Dutch-owned Billiton had not resumed work. It was not immediately clear why this was so, the agency added.

The trouble in the bauxite industry started on December 19 when workers went on strike after the government announced tax increases.